RG104 Entry 235
Volume 082

February 26, 1897 – June 7, 1897
Letters Sent from Mint Headquarters

Fair copies of letters and telegrams sent from U.S. Mint headquarters to various official and individual recipients.

Some of these letters duplicate those of Entry 1, and others are responses to letters in those boxes or in Entry 229 “Letters Received.”

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RG 104 RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF THE MINT

Records of the Bureau of the Mint
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February 26, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at St. Louis, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Ten Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-six $\frac{75}{100}$ Dollars ($10,896.75) in Gold Coin, and Eighty-eight $\frac{73}{100}$ Dollars ($88.73) in Silver Coin, making a total of Ten Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-five $\frac{48}{100}$ Dollars ($10,985.48) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at St. Louis, as shown by Memorandum No. 254 dated Feby 23, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 26, 1897.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 254, dated Feby 23, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 254, dated Feby 20, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $11,019.73; charges $34.25 and net value $10,985.48. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested

from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 26, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

4 Double Eagles	Dels. 32 & 33	80.00
Total		$80.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	Del. 11	40.00
Total		$40.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 132	2.00
Total		$2.00

February 26, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Your letter of the 26th instant advising shipment of fourteen (14) gold and two (2) silver medals for the State Department received.

The medals have been delivered by the Express Company and I have forwarded the same to the Department of State with the request that they remit you a draft for the amount of your account, namely, $388.45, as early as practicable.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Febuary 26, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

You will please cause to be prepared and forwarded to this Bureau a set of National Medals and Proof Coins for exhibition at the Tennessee Centennial to be held at Nashville, Tennessee.

You will be reimbursed for the medals at cost and for the proof coins at their face value. It is very desirable that these medals and coins be furnished without delay.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 26, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith fourteen (14) gold and two (2) silver medals, as requested to be struck, per your letters of the second, tenth and fifteenth instant.

I also enclose herewith the account of the Superintendent of the Mint for these medals, mounting, cases and express charges, amounting in the aggregate to three hundred eight-eight dollars and forty-five cents ($388.45), for which I will thank you to cause a draft to be transmitted as early as practicable.

Please acknowledge receipt of the medals to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 26, 1897.

Senor Don Matias Romero,
Env. Ex'y and Minister Plenipot'y
1413 I Street N. W.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

You will oblige me very much if you will loan me, for a few days, copies of the publication I send herewith, for the months of June and October, November and December 1896, as those numbers of the same are not in my possession and require them in order to complete my statement of Coinage and Imports and Exports of the Precious

Metals of Mexico, for my next Report on the Production of the Precious Metals.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 27, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Ninety-nine Thousand Three Hundred and Seventy-one $\frac{41}{100}$ Dollars ($99,371.41) in Gold Coin, and Three Hundred and Three $\frac{35}{100}$ Dollars ($303.35) in Silver Coin, making a total of Ninety-nine Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy-four $\frac{76}{100}$ Dollars ($99,674.76) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver as shown by Memorandum No. 39, dated Feby 23, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 27, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 39, dated Feby 23, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United

States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 39, dated Feby 16, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $99,927.19; charges $252.43, and net value $99,674.76. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 27, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram Confirmed. Will probably be at the Mint tomorrow morning about eleven o'clock.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 27, 1897.

Capt. William A. Glassford, U.S.A.
Signal Office,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

In answer to your inquiry of the 19th instant, relative to the consumption of gold and silver in the Industrial Arts in the World and the United States, since 1878, I have to reply that the figures as printed on page 38, Production Report of 1895. (referred to by you), are correct. The apparent difference between the amounts on page 38 and those on pp. 46 and 49 is explained by deducting the amount of "Old Material" consumed from the totals. The amounts

for the World pp. 46 and 49,- being the new material only consumed.

The following table is an estimate of the World's consumption including the United States for the years 1893, '4 and '5:-

Year.	Gold.	Silver. (Coining value).
1893.	$50,177,300	27,554,280
1894.	52,183,783	33,340,681
1895.	58,579,160	41,388,052

I am unable to furnish figures for the World, previous to 1893, and for the United States previous to 1880.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 27, 1897.

L. C. Guggenheim
Lock Box 10, Lead S. Dakota.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 23rd instant, you are respectfully informed that there were no gold pieces of the denomination of twenty-five or fifty cents struck at the Mints of the United States.

Some years ago, jewelers in San Francisco issued pieces which were called quarters and halves. The quarter contained about eight cents worth of gold and the half about twelve cents worth.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

February 27, 1897.

R. D. Wilkinson, Esq.,
Hollydale, Virginia.

Sir:

Your letter of the 25th instant, enclosing burnt one dollar silver certificate has been received and forwarded to the Treasurer of the United States.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 1, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of nineteen thousand five hundred dollars ($19,500.) the same being the amount of Treasury Notes issued under the Act of July 14th, 1890, received in exchange for silver dollars during the month of February 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 1st 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have this day requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of your

Mint to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of $19,500. the same being the amount of Treasury Notes issued under the Act of July 14th 1890, received in exchange for silver dollars during the Month of February 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 1, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 30	2.00
Total		$2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint

Similar letter except as noted, to the following:-

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 134	2.00
Total		$2.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 133	2.00
Total		$2.00

March 1, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of March 1897, has been approved for the sum of $3,000.- payable from the appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$1,000
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	1,600
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	400.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 1, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You will continue to coin gold during the Months of March and such subsidiary silver as will enable you to meet the demand promptly. In addition to this coin such a number of silver dollars as may be practicable.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 1, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Please forward your statements of Deposits

and Purchases (60) Domestic Production (61) Bars Manufactured (62) and Mutilated Coins (474) for the Month of January at your earliest convenience.

I would like to have these reports prepared in the future, if possible, by the 20th of the month following for which they are rendered.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 1, 1897.

Superintendent Mint
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram Confirmed.

Telegraph standard ounces domestic gold and silver coins respectively, transferred and received over counter during January.

R. E. Preston,
Director.

March 1, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

In addition to your gold coinage, you will coin during the month of March 800,000 silver dollars if practicable.

I am informed by the Treasurer of the United States that it will be necessary for you to coin some dimes, and therefore you will please coin during the current month $20,000 in that denominations.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 1, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

You will coin six hundred thousand (600,000.) silver dollars during the month of March.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of Mint.

March 1, 1897.

W. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have received your letter of the 27th of February in explanation of difference in the figures reporting the amount of domestic production during the calendar year ended December 31, 1896, as shown by the statements rendered monthly by your institution.

I have compared the aggregate of your 12 monthly statements with your report for the year and the difference was shown on your annual statement returned in my letter of the 20th ultimo, which figures are correct and the errors to which you call attention instead of being made by the compilation in this Bureau were made by your Office in reporting on your annual statement the amount of refined bullion deposited during the 12 months, while as such returns were made the Bureau prior to May 1896, as clearly shown by your letter of the above date

and the memorandum enclosed therein.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 1, 1897.

R. P. Rothwell, Esq.,
253 Broadway,
New York City.

Sir:

In compliance with your request of the 27th ultimo, I enclose herewith statement of Deposit of Gold & Silver during month of December 1896.

The returns for month of January and not as yet compiled.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 1, 1897.

H. B. Worrell, Esq.,
No. 555 N. 17th Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 26th instant, you are respectfully informed that in case a disbursing agent is appointment for the new Mint at Philadelphia, it will probably be either the Superintendent or one of the Disbursing Clerks of the Treasury Department, that being the usual practice.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of Mint.

March 1, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 27th ult., Certificate of Deposit No. 1561 for $60.00 being on account of Special Assays, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury properly indorsed and returned to his office.

No personal credit to be given you in your bullion accounts and the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-
+ + 27th ult. Certificate of Deposit No. 1562 for $840.00 + Sale of By Products + + +
No personal credit + bullion + + as a miscellaneous receipt.

March 2, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Thirty-seven Thousand and Fifty 11/100 Dollars ($37,050.11) in Gold Coin, and Four Hundred and Forty-two 20/100

Dollars ($442.20) in Silver Coin, making a total of Thirty-seven Thousand Four Hundred and Ninety-two $\frac{31}{100}$ Dollars ($37,492.31) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No 31, dated Feby 26, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + Assay Office at Boise + Mint at Philadelphia + Ten Thousand and Sixty-nine $\frac{24}{100}$ + ($10,069.24) + Seventy-three $\frac{65}{100}$ + ($73.65) + total of Ten Thousand One Hundred and Forty-two $\frac{89}{100}$ + ($10,142.89) + Bullion + Assayer + Assay Office at Boise + Memorandum No. 31, + Feby 26, 1897 + +

March 2, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 31, dated Feby 26, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 31, dated Feby 20, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $37,589.26; charges $96.95 and net value $37,492.31. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director of Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to: over.

RG104 E-235 Vol 82

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Deposit Memorandum No. 31 + Febiy 26, 1897,
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 31,
+ Febiy 20, 1897. + + +
$10,175.55; + $32.66, + $10,142.89.
+ + + + +

March 2, 1897.

To the
Assistant Superintendent, Treasury Department.

Sir:

In compliance with Circular letter of March first, Jacob B. Askins, Messenger has been designated to light all burners, electric and gas, on the evening of March fourth at seven o'clock, in rooms assigned for the use of this Bureau, having a street exposure.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 2, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of March 1897, has been approved for the sum of $40,350.00 payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

over.

Salaries,	1897,	$ 3,500.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	30,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	4,000.
Parting & Refining bullion	—	2,500.
Storage of Silver Bullion (Act July 14, 1890)		350.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

\+ + + March 1897,
\+ + $14,700.00 + + +

Salaries,	1897,	$ 3,400.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	2,300.
Contingent Expenses	1897,	1,000.
Parting & Refining bullion,		8,000.

March 2, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for Special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 36	40.00
Total		$40.00

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:

over.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

\+ + + February 1897 +

2 S.S. Dollars	Del. 31	2.00
	Total	$2.00

March 2, 1897.

Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
San Francisco, California.

Telegram Confirmed

Coin eight hundred thousand silver dollars in March.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 2, 1897.

Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I forward you by today's mail six hundred and seventy-five (675) index cards of the employes of your Institution which you will please fill out in duplicate and forward to this Bureau, one set for the Civil Service Commission, and the other for the Bureau.

I enclose herewith sample showing how these cards are to be filled out.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of Mint.

Similar letters except as noted to the following:-

Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
New Orleans, Louisiana.
\+ + + (375) + + +

Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada,
\+ + + (80) + + +

Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.
(200)

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.
(70)

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.
(45)

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, North Carolina.
(15)

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.
(25)

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Missouri.
(10)

March 2, 1897.

Joseph Champion, Esq.,
Columbia City, Indiana.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 15th ultimo you are respectfully informed that there were coined from January 1st to November 1st 1896, 16,262,512 standard silver dollars.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of Mint.

March 2, 1897.

Elmer H. Scott, Esq.,
c/o E. C. Ludwig, Esq.,
Allegheny, Penna.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 27th ultimo,

you are respectfully informed that there were coined during the calendar year, 1894 $147,521.32 in one-cent pieces.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 3, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Carson, to that of the United States Mint at San Francisco, of the sum of Fifty-one Thousand Three Hundred and Ninety-five 83/100 Dollars ($51,395.83) in Gold Coin, being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Superintendent of the United States Mint at Carson, as shown by Memorandum No. 5320-5321 dated Feby 23, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 3, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 5320-5321 dated Feby 23, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at San Francisco, Shipment No. 10 dated Feby 20, 1897, has been received and examined

at this Bureau, and the gross value found to b
$51,401.26; charges $5.43, and net value $51,395.8
For the latter amount a transfer has been requ
from the bullion fund of your Institution to th
of the United States Mint at San Francisco.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston
Director of the Mi

March 3, 189

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint du
the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bure
of the Mint for special assay, have been received,

2 Quar. Dollars	Del. 31	.5
Total		$ .5

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mi

Similar letter except as noted, to:
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 32	2.0
Total		$ 2.0

March 3, 1897

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the prope

Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, an account of the Union Pacific Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of August 1896, from Council Bluffs, Ia. to Ogden, Utah, of Ingot Copper, amounting to $41.86 consigned to your care payable from the appropriation for Contingent expenses of your Mint, fiscal year 1897.

Duplicate B/L herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

March 3, 1897.

Alfred E. Hunt, Esq.,
President Pittsburgh Reduction Company,
Pittsburgh, Penna.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 26th ultimo, in reference to having a pair of dies made for the purpose of testing alluminum alloys suitable for making coins, I would say this work cannot be done by the Mint, as under the law, Section 3551 of Revised Statutes, it expressly provides that "no private dies shall be prepared at any mint, or the machinery or apparatus thereof be used for that purpose." There is, however, no objection to arranging with the engraver of the Mint to do this work in his private capacity, which he would have to do outside of his regular office hours.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 3, 1897.

John McC. Dougald, Esq.,
Commissioner, Customs Department,
Ottawa, Canada.

Sir:-

In reply to your inquiry of the 19th ultimo, "S", relative to the change in the value of the gold Peso of Chili, I have to say that the value, for years, has been $0.912 in United States Gold. On July 1, 1896, the value was changed by this Department to $0.365, in accordance with the provisions of the "Resumption Act of February 11, 1895" of Chili.

A copy of the law is enclosed herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 3, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.,
Waterbury, Conn.

Sir:

I have referred your bills for corrected medals and cases amounting to forty-seven dollars and seventy-five cents ($47.75) to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 5, 1897.

Hon. J. G. Carlisle,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Seventy-four Thousand One Hundred and Ninety $\frac{15}{100}$ Dollars ($74,190.15) in Gold Coin, and Five Hundred and Fifteen $\frac{28}{100}$ Dollars ($515.28) in Silver Coin, making a total of Seventy-four Thousand Seven Hundred and Five $\frac{43}{100}$ Dollars ($74,705.43) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 40 dated March 1, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:

+ + + Assay Office at Charlotte + Mint at Philadelphia + Thirteen Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty-six $\frac{23}{100}$ Dollars ($13,366.23) in Gold Coin, and Forty-nine $\frac{09}{100}$ Dollars ($49.09) + total of Thirteen Thousand Four Hundred and Fifteen $\frac{32}{100}$ + ($13,415.32) + Bullion + Assayer + U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte + Memorandum No. 2 + March 2, 1897, + + +

March 5, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 40, dated March 1, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 40 dated Feby 24, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $74,909.81; charges $204.38, and net value $74,705.43. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Deposit Memorandum No. 2, + March 2, 1897,
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 2,
+ Feby 27, 1897 + + +
$13,449.31; + $33.99, + $13,415.32
+ + + Philadelphia.

March 5, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of March 1897, has been approved for the sum

of $12,700, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:-

Salaries,	1897.	2,700.
Wages of Workmen,	1897.	7,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	3,000.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

\+ + + March, 1897
\+ + $409.00 + + +

Salaries,	1897,	258.30
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	86.10
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	64.60

March 5, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

4 Double Eagles,	Del. 37 & 38,	80.00
Total,		$80.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 5, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages and Contingent expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers for the Month ending February 28th 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

March 5, 1897.

Edward L. Tead, Esq.,
President, National Exchange Bank,
Boston, Mass.

Sir:-

I have to reply to your favor of the 3rd instant, as follows: The amount of silver purchased under the Act of February 28th 1878, commonly known as the "Bland Bill" was 291,272,018.56 fine ounces, costing $308,279,260.71. The number of silver dollars coined under the same Act was 378,166,793.

The amount of silver purchased under the Act of July 14th, 1890, was 168,674,682.53 fine ounces, costing $155,931,002.23. The number of silver dollars coined under the Act of July 14th 1890 to March 1st 1897, was 63,073,016. The balance of silver bullion now in the Treasury purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, is 119,827,991.26 fine ounces, costing $108,208,996.63; the coining value of the same in silver dollars being $154,929,120.

The Secretary of the Treasury has the right to coin at his discretion such quantity of the silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, as he may deem necessary, to provide for the redemption of Treasury Notes issued in payment of such bullion.

When the notes issued in payment of the bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890 are redeemed in silver dollars, they are cancelled in accordance with the terms of the Act.

The number of silver dollars now in the Treasury is 391,020.85 of this number $364,152,327 are held for the redemption of outstanding certificates and $9,457,048 for the redemption of Treasury Notes issued under the Act of July 14th 1890.

The stock of gold coin in the country on the first instant, is estimated to have been $655,672,000. In the absence of the final figures, I estimate the World's product for 1896 to have aggregated $218,000,000. I believe that the product of gold will continue to increase for a number of years to come. The price of gold seldom varies from its coining value. The coining value of an ounce of pure gold twenty-five years ago was the same as it is today, viz: $20.67-

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 5, 1897.

Hon. James A. Manning,
Albany, New York.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 2nd instant you are respectfully informed that the Secretary of the Treasury on the third instant directed that a medal should be prepared of the late Daniel Manning and instructions have been given the Mint at Philadelphia accordingly.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 6, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Sixty-two Thousand One Hundred and Two $\frac{07}{100}$ Dollars ($62,102.07) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Twenty-one $\frac{81}{100}$ Dollars ($221.81) in Silver Coin, making a total of Sixty-two Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty-three $\frac{88}{100}$ Dollars ($62,323.88) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 41, dated March 3, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:- over.

+ + + Mint at Denver + Mint at Philadelphia + Fifty-five Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-one 87/100 + ($55,881.87) + Two Hundred and Fifty-one 54/100 ($251.54) + Fifty-six Thousand One Hundred and Thirty-three 41/100 + ($56,133.41) + Bullion + Assayer + Mint at Denver + Memorandum No. 42, + March 3, 1897, + + +

March 6, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 41, dated March 3, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 41, dated Feby 27, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $62,453.07; charges $129.19, and net value $62,323.88. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the Bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Deposit Memorandum No. 42 + March 3, 1897, + Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 42, + Feby 27, 1897 + + + + $56,274.74; + $141.33, + $56,133.41. + + + + +

March 6, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution, during the Month of March 1897, has been approved for the sum of $2,000.00 payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897.	$ 600
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	1100
Contingent Expenses	1897,	300

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

+ + + March 1897 +

+ $1020.50 + + +

Salaries,	1897,	$ 275.50
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	595.00
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	150.00

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

+ + + March 1897 +

+ + $326.80 + + +

Salaries,	1897,	$ 236.80
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	90.00

March 6, 1897.

W. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages and Contingent expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers for the month ending February 28, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 6, 1897.

Elmer H. Copeland, Esq.,
No. 70 Elm Street,
North Hampton, Mass.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, you are respectfully informed that the old copper cent weighed 168 grains. At this date the price of copper was forty cents per pound, hence its metallic value approximated very closely to its coining value.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 6, 1897.

J. H. DeVall, Esq.,
Moberly, Missouri.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 27th ultimo, I forward you by to day's mail a copy of Department Circular No. 123, and would

respectfully refer you to pages 15-44-47, which will give you the information desired.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 6, 1897.

W. C. Lynch, Esq.,
Toronto, Jefferson Co., Ohio.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 11th ultimo, which through an oversight has remained unanswered, you are respectfully informed that United States gold coin is quoted in the London market at 76s. 5½d. per ounce, which is equal to $18.607. Thus you can readily observe that our gold coin is not at a discount of seven percent in London.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 6, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins received at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Dollars	Del. 32	1.00
	Total	$1.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

February 1897

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 12	, 40.00
2 Eagles	,	" 13	, 20.00
Total	,		, $60.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

March 1897

2 S.S. Dollars	,	Del. 135	, 2.00
Total	,		, $2.00

March 6, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each mek at your Mint during the Month of February 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations. The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to the following:

Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

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March 8, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 S.S. Dollars	Del. 136	2.00
Total		$2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 8, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of March 1897, has been approved for the sum of $30,300.00 payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897.	$ 3,300.
Wages of Workmen,	1897.	15,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	2,000.
Parting & Refining Bullion	———	2,000.
Coinage of Silver Bullion (Act July 14, 1890)		8,000.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to: over.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nevada.

March 1897

$2,800.00

Salaries,	1897,	1,200.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	1,000.
Parting & Refining bullion	____	600.

March 8, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

I enclose herewith some inquiries made by the Director of the Mint of the Mexican Republic.

Will you please furnish me with such information as will enable me to answer the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 8, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find half-eagle, light weight, for which I will thank you to return me the coining value, less registration fee) per registered mail.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 82

March 8, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Parting & Refining & Coinage of Silver Bullion expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the month ending February 28, 1897.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston
Director

Similar letters except as noted to the following:

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

+ + + Salary, Wages, Contingent & Parting & Refining Expense + +

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

+ + + Salary, Wages and Contingent Expense + +

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

+ + + Salary, Wages and Contingent expense + + +

March 8, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 2nd instant, in reference to the operations of the refinery of your Mint received, and your decision to suspend work in that department until the receipt of bullion will justify the resumption of operations, is approved.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 8, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

I have received the duplicate cards, giving the names, residence and designation of the employes of your Institution, as per your letter of advice of the third instant.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 8, 1897.

Hon. S. C. Hyde,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the sixth instant, I would state that under the Act of January 12th, 1895, only 1,000 copies of the report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year 1896,

could be printed. From this number, a copy was sent to each Senator and Member of the House of Representatives, as the Bill referred to made no provisions for supplying them with the report. On the second instant, a Resolution was passed by the House of Representatives and Senate to print 10,000 copies of this report, 3,000 for the House and 2,000 for the Senate; 5,000 for this Bureau.

I presume that you would be entitled to your quota of the number printed for the use of the Members of the House.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 8, 1897.

Charles Gruber, Esq.,
Care of R. Dallenger D. G. Co.,
Jefferson City, Mo.

Sir:

I enclose herewith Department Circular No. 123, in which you will find the information you requested as to the coinage of different denominations to the close of the calendar year 1895, and also a separate statement showing the coinage for 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 8, 1897.

Thomas F. Mahoney, Esq.,
No 89 Park Street,
Ashtabula, Ohio.

Sir:- In reply to your letter of the 22nd ultimo,

you are respectfully informed that when the United States coined at the ratio of one to fifteen, an ounce of pure gold would coin, $19.395-; an ounce of fine silver $1.2929-. The weight of fine silver in the dollar never was changed, always having been 371 1/4 grains.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver of the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the National, Colorado National and Denver National Banks, Denver, Colorado.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent and Parting & Refining accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York City, N.Y. for the month

ending February 28th 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent March 6, 1897.
" recd " 8, 1897.

March 9, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the National, Colorado National and Denver National Banks, Denver, Colorado.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office.
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement your Salary, Wages, Contingent & Parting & Refining accounts for the months ending February 28, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director, Mint.

March 9, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Months of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 41	,	40.00
Total	,	,	$40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

4 Half Dollars	Dels. 35+36	,	2.00
Total	,	,	$2.00

March 9, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith proof of schedule of supplies for your Mint which I would thank you to have compared, noting carefully, the marks of inquiry made by the Printer along the margin of the proof.

Please return as early as practicable.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 8th instant, reporting the amount of silver ready for shipment to the Mint at Philadelphia, received, and in reply I will thank you to inform me whether this silver can be spared from your Bullion Fund without any inconvenience whatever.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 9, 1897.

Calvin J. Cowles, Esq.,
Wilkesboro, North Carolina.

Sir:

Referring to the samples of ore with your letter of the 13th ultimo, I would say that the Assayer of the Bureau reports that they do not contain gold.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise be increased in the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.-) by a transfer

of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint United States,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith 1.05 ounces of gold for which I will thank you to return the value in currency, per registered mail, as early as convenient, less the registration fee.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and Forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 42	, $ 40.00
2 Quar Dollars	,	" 33	, .50
2 Dimes	,	" 34	, .20
Total	,		, $ 40.70

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 37	, 2.00
Total	,		, $ 2.00

March 10, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salaries, Wages, Contingent & Parting & Refining Expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers for the month ending February 28, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1897.

W. D. Chesterman, Esq.,
"Dispatch" Office,
Richmond, Virginia.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant, you are respectfully informed that both gold and silver are received by the mints, not only in the form of bullion, but in the form of plate jewelry, etc., foreign and mutilated domestic coins, in fact, any gold or silver that is not too base for the operations of the mint will be received; the gold being paid for at its coining value, either in coin or fine bars; silver being coined on Government account only, deposits for the same are paid for in bars, either of standard or other fineness.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1897.

Henry R. Hatfield, Esq.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 1st instant received. In reply I would respectfully submit the following:-

The motto, "In God we Trust" upon the coins of our Mints was never withdrawn by any specific Act, but it was simply omitted in the Revised Statutes.

I forward you by to-day's mail, copies of the Proceedings of the Annual Assay Commission, from 1882 to 1896, inclusive. At the sitting

of the Commission in 1883, one of the gold coins of the New Orleans Mint was found to be seven-hundredths of a thousand below the limit of deviation in fineness. Since that date the Commission have found no coin varying either as to weight or fineness, below or above the deviation allowed by law. Our coins compare very closely to the standard fixed by law, as you will observe by an examination of these reports.

Prior to 1874, all the blanks or planchetts for the minor coinage were prepared in the Mints, but owing to the large coinage of Trade dollars, authorized by the Act of 1873, and the subsidiary silver, authorized by the Redemption Act of January 14th 1875, it was found impracticable to prepare the blanks for this coinage in the Mint at Philadelphia, to which it is confined by law, and since then the blanks have been procured by contract from outside manufacturers.

There are now employed in the several Mints and Assay Offices of the United States, 900 persons, the largest number, about 400, being employed at the Mint in Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1897.

H. C. Greider, Esq.,
Selinsgrove, Penna.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith you will find circular issued January 1st, giving the value of the

standard coins of the different nations of the World.

Your postal has been referred to the Chief of the Coast and Geodectic Survey for reply as to the relative weights and measures of the metric system, and the system now in use in the United States.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1897.

W. W. Jones, Esq.,
Greenville, Ohio.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 8th instant, you are respectfully informed that the coinage of the gold dollar was discontinued by the Act of September 26th 1890. The total number of these dollars coined from 1849 to 1889, was $19,499,337.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1897.

To the "Pathfinder",
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

In reply to your inquiry, you are respectfully informed that the leaf in the wreath on the reverse of the standard olive, used to represent peace.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 10, 1897.

Senor Don Matias Romero,
E. E and Minister Plenipotentiary,
No. 1413 K Street,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

The inquiries from the Director of the Mint of the Mexican Republic, enclosed in your letter of the 8th instant, were referred to the Mint at Philadelphia, and I take great pleasure in enclosing herewith copy of the reply of the Engraver of that Institution.

I have the honor to be,

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 11, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

Referring to the reference by the Comptroller of the Treasury of the letter of the Auditor of the Treasury Department, in the case of Joseph Friedenstein vs. the United States, I have the honor to state that in the schedule of proposals for supplies of the United States Mint at Philadelphia for the fiscal year ended June 30th, 1893, recommended for acceptance by the Superintendent, is found the following entry:

x x x x	x x x x	x x x x
J. Friedenstein,	Ingot Copper for Alloy	$0.11,64 per lb.
x x x x	x x x x	x x x x

(Signed) O. C Boebyshell,
Superintendent. over.

The foregoing award was approved by the Director of the Mint as per extract of letter attached.

Treasury Department,
Mint Bureau, July 1st, 1892.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sir:

The following award for supplies required by your Mint during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1893, are hereby approved.

× × × × × × × × × × × × × × ×

J. Friedenstein, New York,
Ingot Copper for alloy $0.11,64 per lb.

× × × × × × × × × × × × × ×

Very respectfully,
(Signed) E. O. Leech,
Director of the Mint.

The letter of the Auditor of the Treasury Department is returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 11, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Storage & Coinage of Lil. Bul. accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, Pa. for the month ending February 28, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by Law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director.

Accounts sent Mch. 9, 1897.
" recd " 10, 1897.

March 11, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent Refinery + Storage + Coinage of Lil. Bul. accounts for the month ending February 28, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 11, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Double Eagles	Del. 43 ,	40.00
Total ,	,	$40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles ,	Del. 14 ,	40.00
Total ,	,	$40.00

over.

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Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S.S. Dollars	Del. 137	2.00
	Total	$2.00

March 11, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of Febiy & March 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

		February 1897.

March 11, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the — Certificate

of Deposit No 9291 for $40,000.00 being on account of Minor Coinage Profits, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to his office, personal credit to be given you on your bullion accounts, and the amount to be covered into the Treasury as profits on Minor Coinage.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 11, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. United States Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 8th instant, explaining error in price of copper caps for annealing canisters, I have to say that, under the circumstances, you are authorized to pay the additional eight (.08) cents each for the forty-eight (48) caps delivered amounting to three dollars, eighty-four cents ($3.84). I would suggest that in the future greater care be used in transmitting bids to this Bureau for approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 11, 1897.

Senor Don. J. B. Calvo,
Minister Resident, Costa Rica,
No. 1509 Twentieth Street,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit the following, in reply to the inquiries contained in your letter of the sixth instant:-

1.- What is the exact weight in grammes of one ounce of standard gold in the Mint?

The exact weight in grammes of an ounce of standard gold is 31.1042 grammes.

2.- If a standard gold ounce does not give in the cut coins the price at which it is quoted, what is the reason this price exceeds its actual product?

It does give the price at which it is quoted, and does not exceed the actual product.

3.- Does the Mint make an extra charge for cutting the Colones and what is this charge per standard ounce?

The charge is made for rolling, annealing, cutting, adjusting, milling and cleaning the planchettes, the expense of these different operations being included in the former estimate sent you.

4.- The estimate of 75 ounces waste in a million dollars being very high, how much can it be reduced; and should it be less than the estimate, will the Mint recognize the difference?

The amount of gold necessary to be operated upon to produce one million dollars is about 106,000 ounces; the legal allowance

on which for the Melter and Refiner and Coiner in their operations is 159 ounces. The estimate of 75 ounces wastage is therefore less than fifty percent. This estimate may be reduced to twenty-five percent of the legal allowance or say forty ounces.

5.- Can the Mint proceed at once to prepare the 10 Colones pieces, and in what time will it deliver 50,000 of these pieces, or 500,000 Colones?

The Mint could deliver 50,000 pieces within two weeks after the receipt of the order.

6.- Can the Mint prepare other coins as follows:

50,000 for the 20 Colones coins,
200,000 for the 10 Colones coins,
100,000 for the 5 Colones coins,
250,000 for the 2 Colones coins, and

in case of there being a limit what will it be per year?

The Mint could prepare planchetts for the amount of the coins above specified, say within three months.

7.- In the event of securing this service, how much notice should be given the Mint each time the preparation of the said coins is desired?

One weeks notice would be ample.

Trusting that the foregoing will be satisfactory, I am,

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 11, 1897.

Thomas E. Benedict, Esq.,
Public Printer.

Sir:

On the first instant, the House of Representatives and the Senate passed a Resolution providing for the printing of 10,000 copies of the Report of the Director of the Mint for 1896, and 3,000 copies of the Report of the Director of the Mint on the Production of the Precious Metals for the year 1895; also 5,000 copies of the Coinage Laws of the United States.

I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of the report for the fiscal year 1896, and report on the production of the Precious Metals for the calendar year 1895, also copy of the laws relating to the coinage.

I would state that there are many applications on file for the reports that I am unable to fill, and it is very desirable that additional copies authorized by the Resolution, be printed as early as practicable.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 11, 1897.

L. E. Munson, Esq.,
New Haven, Conn.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 8th instant relative to the production of gold and silver in Montana and the amount of such product deposited at U. S. Government institutions between the years 1864 and 1889, I

take pleasure in enclosing a statement giving by years, all the information at hand, on the subject, which I trust will be satisfactory to you.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 11, 1897.

R. M. Palmer, Esq.,
North Star, Michigan.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 22nd ultimo, you are respectfully informed that at no time prior to 1892 could the owner of silver bullion deposit the same at the Mints and receive gold in exchange.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 11, 1897.

William Martin Aiken,
Care Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegram Confirmed.

Cannot be in Philadelphia today.

R. E. Preston,
Director of Mint.

March 12, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery

& Coinage of Sil. Bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at New Orleans, La. for the month ending February 28, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Mar - 1897
" recd " - 1897

March 12, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Sil. Bul. accounts for the month ending February 28, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 12, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Telegram Confirmed

Coin as early as practicable one million dollars in eagles.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 12, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 15	, 40.00
2 S. S. Dollars	,	" 38	, 2.00
Total	,		$ 42.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 12, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have to request that your future gold coinage be confined to eagles and half eagles in equal proportions.

I would say for your information that the appropriation for "Freight on Bullion and Coin", is exhausted and unless your appropriation for "Contingent Expenses" is sufficient to pay the transportation of from five to ten million dollars in gold bullion from New York, it is not practicable to make a transfer at present.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 12, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Your letter of the 11th instant, enclosing proposals received by you for furnishing one pair of rolls for the use of the Assay Department of your Institution is received.

Your acceptance of the bid of William L. Simpson at three hundred and seventy-five dollars ($375.) is approved. The bids and the letter of the Assayer, recommending the acceptance of Mr. Mason's bid, are returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 12, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

I am in receipt of a letter of the Secretary of the Treasury requesting that if practicable a coining press be spared from one of the Mints, and sent to the Tennessee Centennial, which opens at Nashville in May.

Have you a small press that could be spared for this purpose.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 12, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages and Contingent expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers for the month ending February 28, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

March 12, 1897.

A. De Foville, Esq.,
Directeur des Monnaies de France,
11 quai Conti, Hotel des Monnaies,
Paris, France.

Sir:

If you will kindly give me the estimate of the production of gold in Madagascar during the calendar years, 1895-6, I will be under many obligations.

I hope to be able to transmit you in a short time, the replies to the inquiries in reference to the coinage and production of the United States during the calendar year, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 12, 1897.

Ellery Ware Ellis,
No. 26 Morris Street,
Everett, Mass.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 25th ultimo to the Hon. W. E. Chandler, has been referred to this Bureau, and you are respectfully informed that the table on page 436 of the Coinage Laws of the United States fourth edition, 1894, referred to by you, was compiled in 1839 at the suggestion of the then Secretary of the Treasury Hon. Samuel D. Ingham, by Mr. John White, Cashier of the United States Bank at Baltimore. Mr. White does not explain on what principles he constructed the table. He simply gives the authority for his figures in a very general way, and we are left to our own resources to find out what value he ascribed in silver to the Castile marc; what ratio between gold and silver was implied in his calculations, and consequently what he reckoned the Castile marc at in gold. He does not even state whether the dollar mentioned in the table is the United States dollar or a Spanish dollar. If it is a United States gold dollar, its fine weight at this date was 24 3/4 grains, and its legal weight, 27 grains. I am, however, inclined to think that the dollars used by Mr. White, in his table are Spanish, and not American dollars; eight and one-half of these Spanish dollars could be coined from the Castilian marco or marc, so that the value of the Castilian marc of silver must be taken at

$8.50; of the Castilian marc of gold at $
16 being the ratio of gold to silver, which
White seems to have adopted in his calcula

I do not see clearly how this ratio c
justified, but it is evidently the one he
Bearing in mind that Mr. White uses
round numbers, the following exa
will verify the case cited by you on
436, first line 1492-1545;

Gold $90,000,000 equals Gold Castilian
12,500 as according to the supposition
by them, the Castilian marc of gol
equal to $136; 12,500 Castilian mar
gold would equal $1,700,000, and th
for one year (1,700,000) multiplied by
number of years in the period, e
$90,100,000, the figures given for t
period in Mr. White's table, plus $10
As all of his figures are round, I
it he dropped the one hundred tho
dollars, retaining the millions only,
did for the subsequent periods both
gold and silver. Taking the silver p
of the same 53 years given in Mr.
table, the number of Castilian marc
duced in the year is 66,600. This mul
by 8/2 the number of dollars in a Ca
marc of silver, gives 5,661,000, as th
value of the year's silver product
this in turn multiplied by 53, the n
of years in the period, gives 30,003,30
in round numbers 30,000,000 dollars.

The exact weight of the Castilian marco or
was 23.005 grammes or 7.39 ounces Troy.

Respectfully yours,

R. E. Preston, Director

March 12, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.,
Waterbury, Conn.

Sirs:

I will thank you to strike and forward as early as practicable to this Bureau, a medal of award for "Neder & Cleland."

You will also please furnish a case for the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 13, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Charlotte be increased in the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution as follows, viz:-

$20,000.- placed with Asst. Treas. U. S. at New York,
5,000.- placed with Commercial Natl Bk. at Charlotte.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:

\+ + + Assay Office at St. Louis
\+ Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000.-) +
\+ Lawful money + Assayer in charge
\+ Assistant Treasurer U. S. at St. Louis, Mo.

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March 13, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salaries, Wages, Contingent and Refinery expense accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Carson, Nevada for the Month ending February 28, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Mch. 4, 1897.
" recd " 10, 1897.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + Bullion accounts
+ Superintendent + U. S. Mint +
Philadelphia + Quarter +
Dec. 31, 1896 + + +
Accounts sent Jany 29, 1897.
" recd " 30, 1897.

March 13, 1897.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.-) and that $20,000.- of this amount be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York and

over

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$5000.- with Commercial Natl Bank at Charlotte.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

+ + + Twenty Thousand Dollars $20,000.- + + Assistant Treasurer of the United States at St. Louis.

March 13, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent and Refining Ex accounts for the month ending February 28, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

+ + + Bullion accounts + Quarter ending Dec. 31, 1896, with my approval.

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March 13, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 138	2.00
Total		$2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 13, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, an account of the Chicago, North Western Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of October 1896, from Chicago, Ills. to Council Bluffs, of Ingot Copper, amounting to $18.98, consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent expenses of your Mint fiscal year 1897.

Duplicate B/L herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

March 13, 1897.

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Sir:

I will thank you to furnish me on receipt hereof, with an estimate as to the probable amount of gold that will be deposited at your Institution from March 1st, to the close of the current fiscal year.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, to the following:-

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

March 13, 1897.

Hon. S. M. Cullom,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Your letter of the 11th instant, enclosing papers of Mr. L. A. Cochran of Springfield, Illinois, for position as a Machinist in one of the Mints has been received. I would state that all positions of this character are now in the classified service, and that I have forwarded Mr. Cochran the necessary form of application so that when an examination is held for one of these positions, he will be duly notified of the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 13, 1897.

L. A. Cochran, Esq.,
No. 911 Reservoir Street,
Springfield, Ills.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find letter of Crescent Steel Co., filed with your papers by Senator Cullom, and which you requested be returned to you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 13, 1897.

Frederick Emery, Esq.,
Chief Bureau of Statistics,
State Department.

Sir:

Will you kindly send me two (2) copies of the Consular Report for February 1897, an oblige,

Yours very truly,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 13, 1897.

Frederic Emory Esq.,
Chief Bureau of Statistics,
Department of State.

Sir:

When part 2 of "Money and Prices" is received from the Printer, I would be much gratified if you will kindly furnish me with fifty copies of the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 13, 1897.

Ellery Ware Ellis, Esq.,
No. 26 Morris Street,
Everett, Mass.

Sir:

I regret that I made an error in my letter of yesterday in giving the weight of the Castilian marc; it should be .23,005 Kilogrammes instead of grammes.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 13, 1897.

Senor Don Matias Romero,
E. E. & Minister Plenipotentiary,
No. 1413 K Street,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I have to thank you for the October number of the "Estadistica Fiscal" which you were kind enough to forward me.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 13, 1897.

Hon. C. W. Stone,
House of Representatives.

My dear Sir:

I will be under many obligations if you will send me half a dozen copies of the report made by the Coinage Committee on the subject of Inter-

national Coinage, at the last session.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 15, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Mint at Denver, Colo. for the month ending February 28, 1897 rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent Mar. 2, 1897.
" recd " 5, 1897.

March 15, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages & Contingent Expense accounts for the month ending February 28, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 15, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

4 S.S. Dollars	Dels. 39+40	,	4.00
Total	,	,	$4.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S.S. Dollars	Del. 139	,	2.00
Total	,	,	$2.00

March 15, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have this day requested that there be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in your name the sum of $245,951.24 on account of profits on the coinage of silver bullion, purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of your Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Cancelled

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to: over.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

+ + + deposited in the Treasury
+ + $181,370.19 + profits on the
coinage of silver bullion + + +

March 15, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find check on the Assistant Treasurer in your city for thirty-seven dollars and fifty-eight cents ($37.58) for which I will thank you to return me, per registered mail, the following coins of the coinage of 1897:

One double eagle; one eagle; one-half eagle; one-quarter eagle.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 15, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I will thank you to prepare and forward an invoice of gold bullion approximating ten million dollars in value, with a view to its transfer to the Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 15, 1897.

Baltimore Copper Smelting & Rolling Co.,
Keyser Building, Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen:

I will thank you to inform me the lowest price at which you will deliver to the Quartermaster, U. S. Army in your city, ten (10) tons of the best ingot copper for shipment to the Mint of the United States at San Francisco.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 15, 1897.

Mr. Landislaus Hengelmuller von Hengervar,
E. E. & Minister Plenipotentiary,
No. 1721 Rhode Island Avenue,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

It is with much pleasure that I acknowledge the receipt of five copies of the "Tabellen zur Wahrungs-Statistik", forwarded by you, and I sincerely thank you for the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 15, 1897.

James L. Wroe, Esq.,
Lima, Fayette Co., Iowa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, I enclose herewith statement of the coinage of silver for the calendar years 1893

to 1896 inclusive.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 16, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, be increased in the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars ($250,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution, with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 16, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in the name of John Daggett, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at San Francisco, California, the sum of two hundred and forty-five thousand, nine hundred fifty-one dollars and twenty-four cents ($245,951.24) on account of profits on the coinage of silver bullion

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purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of said Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + name of Overlow Code,
+ Mint of the United States at New Orleans +
+ one hundred eighty-one thousand, three hundred and seventy-dollars and nineteen cents ($181,370.19) + profits on coinage
+ + Bullion Fund + increased + +

March 16, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery and Coinage of Bil. Bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at San Francisco, Cal. for the month ending February 28, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent March 9, 1897.
" recd " 16, 1897.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + Bullion accounts
+ Superintendent + U. S. Assay Office
at New York + Quarter + Dec. 31, 1896 +
+ Accounts sent Jany 27, 1897.
" recd " 28, 1897.

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March 16, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars ($250,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 16, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have this day requested that there be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in your name the sum of $245,951.24 on account of profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of your Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 16, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent, Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:- I have examined and referred to the proper

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accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent Refinery & Coinage of Sil. Bul. accounts for the Month ending February 28, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

+	+	+	Bullion accounts
+ Quarter +	Dec. 31, 1896	+	+

March 16, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 47	40.00
Total		$40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

+	+	+	+
2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 41		2.00
Total			$2.00

March 16, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of March, 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

+	+	+	+	+
+	Feby & March, 1897		+	+

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

+	+	+	+	+
+	Feby & March 1897		+	+

March 16, 1897.

Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You will please cause to be struck and forwarded as early as practicable,

twelve (12) gold and six (6) silver medals for the use of the State Department, providing the same with cases, for which you will render your account in duplicate.

You will also please return upon receipt of this letter, the sample case sent you on the sixteenth of February last, for these medals.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 16, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

The letter addressed to you yesterday in regard to the deposit of profits was an error, as it was intended for the Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco, in whose name the letter to the Secretary of the Treasury requested the deposit to be made.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 16, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 16th instant, reporting shortage of 383 envelopes in the consignment of stationery has been referred

to the Chief of Division Stationery and Binding.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 16, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 10th instant, enclosing letter from the Assayer recommending the temporary appointment for sixty days of Mr. William Runyon in his Department, I would thank you to inform me whether the present appropriation of your Institution are sufficient to admit of the employment of Mr. Runyon.

I am aware that the assays of the imported ores impose a great deal of extra work upon the Assay Department of your office, and I have been considering the propriety of having the samples sent and the assays made in the laboratory attached to this Bureau, the Assayer being of the opinion that he would be able to do the work without requiring any additional help, but before finally deciding the matter I would like you to advise me as to the state of your appropriations for wages.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 16, 1897.

John S. Braddock, Esq.,
Cor. Broadway & Markham Sts.
Little Rock, Arkansas.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 12th instant, requesting to be informed whether there had been any increase or a decrease in the circulating medium of the country for the past four years, and how much, and the per capita circulation for each year, I forward you by today's mail a copy of Department Circular No. 123, and would respectfully refer you to page 54 of the same. Also the monthly statement is enclosed therewith. I have sent you by today's mail also, a copy of the report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 16, 1897.

Funk & Wagnalls Co.,
No. 30 Lafayette Place,
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

Referring to your letter of the 4th instant, I enclose herewith copy of the report of the Coinage Committee on the subject of International Coinage.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 16, 1897.

Riverside Mill Co.,
Reno, Nevada.

Gentlemen:

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant, you are respectfully informed that I have examined the official list of names of those entitled to medals of award of the World's Columbian Exposition, and fail to find the name of "Riverside Mill Co."

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 16, 1897.

Hon. Horace White,
Senate Chamber,
Albany, New York.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 8th instant, in reference to the appointment of Henry Hamel of Syracuse to the position in the Assay Office in New York City, you are respectfully informed that all the positions in that Institution are now embraced in the classified service, under the order issued by the President under date of May 6th 1896. There are, however, two vacancies in that Institution for which examinations will be held shortly by the Civil Service Commission. I would advise that Mr. Hamel make application for examination.

But for the fact that these positions

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have to be filled through the Civil Service Commission, I should have no hesitancy whatever in approving the appointment of Mrs. Hamel.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 16, 1897.

T. E. Walker, Esq.,
Cache Creek P. O.
Bonaparte Valley, B. C.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the first instant, you are respectfully informed that the motto "In God we Trust" was not placed upon the standard silver dollar until after the passage of the Act of 1878. It, however, appeared on the Trade dollar, which was authorized to be coined by the Act of 1873.

The silver dollar has always contained thirteen stars both prior to and subsequent to 1878.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 17, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum

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of Twenty-five Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty-four $\frac{77}{100}$ Dollars ($25,324.77) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Six $\frac{70}{100}$ Dollars ($206.70) in Silver Coin, making a total of Twenty-five Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty-one $\frac{47}{100}$ Dollars ($25,531.47) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 32, dated March 12, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + Assay Office at Boise + Mint at Philadelphia + Twenty-six Thousand Four Hundred and Eighty-five $\frac{92}{100}$ Dollars ($26,485.92) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Eighty-three $\frac{17}{100}$ Dollars ($283.17) in Silver Coin + Twenty-six Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-nine $\frac{09}{100}$ + + ($26,769.09) + Bullion + Assay Office at Boise + Memorandum No. 32, March 12, 1897 + +

March 17, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages & Contingent Expense accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Helena, Montana for the month ending February 28, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Asc sent Mch. 2, 1897.
" recd " 8, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:- over.

+ + Salary, Wages and Contingent
expense accounts + Assayer in charge
+ U. S. Assay Office at Boise, Idaho, +
Month + February 28, 1897 + + +
Accounts sent March 5, 1897.
" recd " 12, 1897.

March 17, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mont.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 32, dated Mch. 12, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 32, dated March 6, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $25,600.41; charges $68.94, and net value $25,531.47. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Deposit Memorandum No. 32 + March 12, 1897.
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 32
+ March 6, 1897 + + +
$26,846.35; + $77.26 + $26,769.09.
+ + + + +

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March 17, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts, for the month ending February 28th 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter, to:-

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

March 17, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2	Double Eagles	Del. 48	40.00
2	Half Dollars	" 35	1.00
		Total	$41.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 17, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

On the 9th instant, I sent you proof and manuscript of Schedule of Supplies for correction and return to this Bureau.

Up to the present time they have not been returned and the Public Printer complains of the delay.

I would thank you to return the proof and manuscript at once.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 18, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Ninety Thousand Three Hundred and Forty-three $\frac{83}{100}$ Dollars ($90,343.83) in Gold Coin, and Six Hundred and Forty-nine $\frac{42}{100}$ Dollars ($649.42) in Silver Coin, making a total of Ninety Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-three $\frac{25}{100}$ Dollars ($90,993.25) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver as shown by

Memorandum No. 43, dated March 15, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of Mint.

March 18, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 43, dated Mch. 15, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 43, dated March 9, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $91,230.92; charges $237.67, and net value $90.99325. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
B. F. Butler,
Acting Director of the Mint.

March 18, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I return herewith your statement of Deposits and Purchases Form No. 60 during February for amendment.

The statement as rendered by you is apt to be misleading, and I would

thank you to follow the idea conveyed by the enclosed copy.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 18, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 49	40.00
2 Half Dollars	" 36	1.00
Total		$ 41.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. L. Dollars	Del. 140	2.00
Total		$ 2.00

March 18, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:-

Your statement of uncurrent coins,

Form No. 474, for the month of February 1897, has not been received.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 18, 1897.

John W. Falls, Esq.,
Easton, Hancock Co.,
Kentucky.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, you are respectfully informed that assays of ores are not made in this Bureau, but you can have an assay made at the United States Assay Office at New York at a charge of three dollars for each assay.

If you will forward a sample of the ore referred to, to this Bureau, we could probably be able to tell you whether it would be worth while to go to the expense of having an assay made.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 18, 1897.

E. J. Renick, Esq.,
Chief Clerk, Department of State.

Sir:

I send you herewith sample medal case, forwarded by you to this Bureau on the fifteenth ultimo.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 19, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at New York to that of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia of the sum of ten million eight hundred and twenty-one dollars and thirty-eight cents ($10,000,821.38) payable in 537,544,150 ounces of standard gold bullion.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 19, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts, of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, N. C. for the month ending February 28, 1897 rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent March 5, 1897.
" recd " 6, 1897.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

\+ + Salary, Wages and Contingent
Expense accounts + Assayer in charge
\+ U. S. Assay Office + +

St. Louis, Mo. + month +
February 28, 1897 + + +
Accounts sent March 3, 1897
" recd " 5, 1897.

March 19, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at New York to that of your Mint of the sum of $10,000,821.38 payable in 537,544.150 ounces of standard gold bullion.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 19, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of your Institution to that of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, of the sum of $10,000,821.38 payable in 537,544.150 ounces of standard gold bullion.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 19, 1897.

W. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages & Contingent Expense accounts for the Month ending February 28, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

+ + + Salary, Wages,
and Contingent Expense + Month
+ February 28, 1897 + +

March 19, 1897.

J. H. Baker, Esq.,
Dansville, New York.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 17th instant, you are respectfully informed that there were coined during the calendar year 1893, 1,225,000 Trade dollars.

I find upon reference to page 48 of the report of 1879 of the Director of the Mint that no Trade dollars were coined during the fiscal year 1873 which ended June 30th of that year, the first coinage of the Trade dollar being in August 1873.

I have forwarded you a copy of Department Circular No. 123, and for the coinage by calendar years, would refer you to pages 44- 51 inclusive.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 19, 1897.

Charles Clarkson, Esq.,
Purdy, Barry Co., Missouri.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 12th instant, you are respectfully informed that during the calendar year 1893, there were coined at the Mints, 1,455,792 standard silver dollars.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 19, 1897.

Messrs, Eimer & Amend,
#205 Third Avenue,
New York City, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find draft for $9.20 in payment of your last bill.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

March 19, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.,
Waterbury, Conn.

Sirs:

I have to request that you will cause to be prepared and forwarded to this Bureau as early as practicable, a medal of award of the World's Columbian Exposition for "New Jersey School for Feeble-Mined", the medal and diploma awarded them having been destroyed by fire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 19, 1897.

Miss M. E. Welsh,
Lincoln, Lincoln Co.,
Tennessee.

Miss:

In reply to your letter of the 10th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that 22 carat gold is worth $18.95 per ounce. The alloy to be added to 22 carat gold to reduce it to standard, that is to contain 900 parts of pure gold and one part of copper alloy, would be about one cent per ounce.

Gold jewelry is received at the Mints and its value is determined by melt and assay.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 19, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March, 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Dimes	Del. 37	.20
Total		$ .20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 19, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter, to:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

March 20, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The coinage of silver dollars from bullion purchased under the Act of July fourteenth 1890, which had been suspended by direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, June 30th, 1895, was resumed by his direction February 1st 1896. At this date there were held by the Treasury 13,322,928 silver dollars for the redemption of Treasury Notes.

From February 1st 1896. to March 1st 1897, there were coined by the Mints 23,028,762 silver dollars. Of this number 15,867,917 represented the cost of the bullion, and the remainder 7,160,845, the profit or seigniorage on said coinage.

From the daily statement of this date showing the condition of the Treasury of the United States, it appears that there are now held for the redemption of Treasury Notes issued under the Act of July fourteenth 1890. 10,116,048 silver dollars.

The amount, cost and coining value of the balance of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July fourteenth 1890, on hand at the respective Mints March first, was as follows:

over.

Mints.	Fine Ounces.	Cost.	Coining value in Silver dollars.
Philadelphia	110,583,164.08	$100,091,562.86	142,976,212.13
San Francisco.	5,765,751.45	5,163,046.53	7,454,708.93
New Orleans	2,911,094.26	2,499,675.69	3,763,839.04
Carson	567,981.47	454,710.95	734,359.87
Total	119,827,991.26	108,208,996.03	154,929,119.97

The balance on hand at the Mint at San Francisco, will be reduced in March, by the coinage of $800,000, and at the Mint at New Orleans, by the coinage of $500,000 to $600,000.

The coinage of silver dollars being subject to the control of the Secretary of the Treasury, it is very desirable to be advised as to whether it is your desire to continue the coinage or not, and also the extent to which such coinage shall be made.

The only material on hand at the Mint at New Orleans, is the silver bullion purchased under the Act of July fourteenth, 1890, and if the coinage should be suspended it will be necessary to furlough the larger portion of the force employed there and also to reduce to some extent the force employed at the San Francisco Mint.

No coinage has been made at the Carson Mint since May 1893.

The Philadelphia Mint has an ample stock of gold bullion and of silver bullion, resulting from the melting

of worn and uncurrent silver coins transferred from the Treasury for recoinage, to keep its force employed.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 20, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Dimes	Del. 38	.20
Total		.20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 20, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

I find it impracticable to have a press brought from Carson for the Tennessee Centennial, and do not deem it advisable to bring the small press now at New Orleans. It will therefore be necessary to rely upon your Mint for the coining press. Will you kindly give me such information as may be necessary to prepare the foundation for setting up the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 20, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 16th instant, and the recommendation made therein by you, that hereafter, a charge of ten (10) cents shall be made for each bronze medal manufactured from copper, is approved.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 20, 1897.

T. H. Aldrich, Esq.,
Room 309, Chalifoux Building,
Birmingham, Alabama.

Sir:

Your letter of the 14th instant to the Hon. J. H. Bankhead, has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply you are respectfully informed that none of the specimen coins recently struck under the Resolution of the House can be furnished to anyone, as it would be a violation of the law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 20, 1897.

L. J. Guynes, Esq.,
Mexia, Texas.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 15th ultimo,

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you are respectfully informed that no analyses of coal are made at this Bureau.

I think, however, if you place yourself in communication with Dr. Thomas M. Drowne of Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa., or Professor Charles E. Monroe of Columbian University, Washington, D.C., they would give you the information desired.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 20, 1897.

Clarence Herbert New, Esq.,
No. 50 Gate Avenue,
Brooklyn, New York.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 19th instant, received. I forward you by today's mail a copy of the Annual Report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year ended June 30th 1896, and for the Monetary systems of the different countries of the World, would respectfully refer you to pages 418-458.

I have not yet completed the estimate of the production of gold and silver for 1896, not having sufficient returns upon which to base the final figures of either the coinage or production of the World.

On pages 46-47 of the Report sent you to-day, you will find the Monetary systems, and approximate stock of money in the aggregate and the per capita, in the principal countries of the World.

I also forward you copy of Department Circular No. 123, and Laws relating to Loans and Currency, and copy of the National Bank Act.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 20, 1897.

A. F. Weber, Esq.,
No. 220 East 50th Street,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

A copy of the report of the Director of the Mint on the Production of the Precious Metals for the calendar year 1895 was forwarded you by today's mail, as requested in your letter of the 17th instant to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Atkinson's Report on "Bimetallism in Europe" was published by the State Department, and to that Department application should be made for the same.

Suess's "Future of Silver" was published under the auspices of the Finance Committee of the Senate, and no copies were furnished the Treasury Department for distribution. You could probably obtain the same upon application to the Superintendent of Public Documents.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 22, 1897.

Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Twenty Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety $\frac{97}{100}$ Dollars ($20,290.97) in Gold Coin, and Sixty $\frac{56}{100}$ Dollars ($60.56) in Silver Coin, making a total of Twenty Thousand Three Hundred and Fifty-one $\frac{53}{100}$ Dollars ($20,351.53) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Boise, as shown by Memorandum No. 33 dated March 18, 1897 of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 22, 1897.

F. J. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 33, dated March 18, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 33 dated March 13, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $20,401.66; charges $50.13, and net value $20,351.53. For the latter amount a transfer has been re-

quested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 22, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S.S. Dollars	,	Del. 45	, 2.00
2 Dimes	,	" 46	, .20
Total	,		, $2.20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S.S. Dollars	,	Del. 141	, 2.00
Total	,		, $2.00

March 22, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper

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Accounting Officers of the Department for examination and settlement an account of the C. P. R. R. (Southern Pacific Company) Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of July 1896. from San Francisco to Reno and return of Mint supplies, amounting to $16.76 consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent expenses of your Mint fiscal year 1897.

Duplicate bills of lading are herewith enclosed.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

March 22, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 19th instant, asking permission to furnish the press with your estimate of the production of the precious metals in Colorado, during the calendar year 1896, I have to say that I have no objections to your doing so, but it must be distinctly understood that they are not the estimates of the Bureau, which I am satisfied will differ from the figures compiled by you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 22, 1897.

Eugene B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Your letter of the 16th instant, enclosing index cards in duplicate of the employes of your Institution, for the use of this Bureau and the Civil Service Commission, has been received.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 22, 1897.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, North Carolina.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 4th instant, in reference to the bill of Henry Troemner, Philadelphia, for balances and weights furnished your Institution, I would say that there is an item in the General Deficiency Bill of three hundred and fifty dollars ($350.) to supply a deficiency in the appropriation of your Institution for the current fiscal year. There is no doubt but that the same will be appropriated during the present extra session, and before the close of the fiscal year. Therefore you are authorized to pay Mr. Troemner the amount of his account without further delay, as you will have ample funds.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint

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March 22, 1897.

Baltimore Copper Smelting & Rolling Co.,
Keyser Building, Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen:

Your offer to deliver ten tons of the best ingot copper at eleven and one-half cents ($0.11½) per pound to the Quartermaster, U. S. Army in your city for shipment to the Mint at San Francisco is accepted.

You will please make shipment as early as practicable and forward your bill, receipted in duplicate to this Bureau, accompanied by Quartermaster's receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 22, 1897.

Josiah Monroe, Esq.,
Secretary & Treasurer "Juragua Iron Co., Ltd."
No 1103 Girard Building,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 13th instant, in regard to the value given the gold doubloon in use in Cuba, viz: $5.017 in the Circular "Value of Foreign Coins", I would say that the monetary system of Cuba is the same as that of Spain. As a matter of fact, however, accounts were kept in the Colonies in pesetas of eight Reals.

The weight and fineness of the principal gold coin in circulation in Cuba are as follows:

Spanish Quadruple Onza of the weight

of 417.590 grains, 895 fine, containing 365.390 grains of pure gold. Value in U. S. gold coin, being $15.736.

The Doubloon Isabella, weight 129.538 grains, fineness 900; weight of pure gold contained in same, 116.580 grains; value in U. S. gold coin $5.017.

Alphonse (25 pesetas) 124.451 grains; fineness 900; contains 112 grains of pure gold; value in U.S. gold coin, $4.823.

Section 25 of the Act of August 27th, 1894, under which the value of foreign coins is estimated by the Director of the Mint, is as follows:-

"That the value of foreign coin as expressed in the money of account of the United States shall be that of the pure metal of such coin of standard value; and the values of the standard coins in circulation of the various nations of the World shall be estimated quarterly by the Director of the Mint, and be proclaimed by the Secretary of the Treasury immediately after the passage of this Act and thereafter quarterly on the first day of January, April, July and October in each year. And the values so proclaimed shall be followed in estimating the value of all foreign merchandise exported to the United States during the quarter for which the value is proclaimed, and the date of the consular certification of any invoice shall for the purposes of this section be considered the date of exportation: Provided, That the Secretary of the Treasury

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may order the reliquidation of any entry at a different value, whenever satisfactory evidence shall be produced to him showing that the value in United States currency of the foreign money specified in the invoice was, at the date of certification, at least ten percentum more or less than the value proclaimed during the quarter in which the consular certification occurred."

From the foregoing you will readily observe that all the Director of the Mint has to do in estimating the value of the coins is to estimate them according to the pure metal contained in the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 22, 1897.

George W. Moss, Esq.,
Agent, Adams Express Co.,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I return herewith the bill of the Adams Express Co., for expressage of this Bureau for the month of January 1897, with the request that you will render a bill for each item, receipting that for one package from Boston, $1.25, which should be made against the Bureau of the Mint. The others should be made against the Treasury Department, Bureau of the Mint.

As soon as returned, the bills will be placed in process of payment.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 22, 1897.

Oberlin Smith, Esq.,
Bridgeton, New Jersey.

Sir:

I have received your letter of the 19th instant, and regret to say that it will not be practicable for me to be present at the trial of the coining machinery, manufactured by you for the Chinese Government.

Thanking you for the extended courtesy, I am

Very truly yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 22, 1897.

Eugene Young, Esq.,
No. 39 Broad Street,
Springfield, Mass.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 20th instant, with enclosure received, for which I have to thank you.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 23, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Carson, to that of the United States Mint at San Francisco, of the sum of Fifty-one Thousand Five Hundred and Thirteen $\frac{18}{100}$ Dollars ($51,532.18)

in Gold Coin, being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Superintendent of the United States Mint at Carson as shown by Memorandum No. 5601-5602 dated March 12, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted to same address:-

+ + + Mint at Denver + Mint at Philadelphia + Seventy-eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Seven $\frac{40}{100}$ + ($78,707.40) + Six Hundred and Twenty-one $\frac{09}{100}$ + ($621.09) + Seventy-nine Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty-eight $\frac{49}{100}$ + ($79,328.49) + Assayer + Mint at Denver + Memorandum No. 44 + March 19, 1897 + + +

+ + + Assay Office at Helena + Mint at Philadelphia + Twenty-Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty-four $\frac{43}{100}$ + ($23,824.43) + One Hundred and One $\frac{34}{100}$ + ($101.34) + Twenty-three Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-five $\frac{77}{100}$ + ($23,925.77) + Bullion + Assayer + Assay Office at Helena + Memorandum No. 33 + March 19, 1897 + + +

March 23, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 5601-5602 dated Mch. 12, 1897

of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at San Francisco, Shipment No. 11 dated March 10, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $51,537.60; charges $5.42, and net value $51,532.18. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at San Francisco.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Deposit Memorandum No. 44 + March 19, 1897 + + Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 44 + March 15, 1897 + + +
$79,539.62; + $211.13, + $79,328.49 + + + +

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Deposit Memorandum No. 33 + March 19, 1897 + Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 33 + March 13, 1897 + + +
$23,984.76; + $58.99, + $23,925.77. + + + +

March 23, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint

during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2	Double Eagles	Del. 53	40.00
	Total		$40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2	S. S. Dollars	Del. 47	2.00
	Total		$2.00

March 23, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of the Joint Resolution granting a life saving medal to Daniel E. Lynn, of Port Huron, Michigan, approved March second, 1897.

The Act under which the present life saving medals are granted and which is set forth on the medal, is the Act of Congress, June 20th, 1874. Will you please inform me how long it would take the Engraver of the Mint, in order that the special medal may be awarded Daniel E. Lynn to insert as awarded under "Joint Resolution, approved March second, 1897."

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 23, 1897.

Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Your letter of the 22nd instant advising the shipment of box containing coins and medals for the Tennessee Centennial Exposition and your account for the same has been received, and the box has been delivered by the Express Company.

You will be advised in a few days, in reference to the settlement of your account for the above.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 23, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In compliance with your request of the 22nd instant, I forward you by today's mail six dozen copies of Circular 1828.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 23, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith revised proof of

Schedule of Supplies which I would thank you to have compared and returned to this Bureau at the earliest date practicable.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 24, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

Before estimating the value of foreign coins to be proclaimed on the first day of April, I respectfully submit for your consideration a few points relative to the principal or full legal tender silver coins or monies of certain countries, especially of India, Russia and Tripoli.

It has occurred to me that it would be advisable in the next circular of the value of foreign coins, not to estimate the value of the Indian rupee, but to leave the space therefor blank, and append thereto a note to the effect that the value of that coin shall be determined in accordance with the consular certificates attached to invoices of merchandise from India; in other words, that the Indian rupee shall be hereafter treated by the Department as a depreciated currency. My reasons for considering this course advisable are given below.

The full text of the law relating to the estimating and proclaiming of the value of foreign coins at present in force, (Act of August 28th 1894, Section 25,) is as follows:

"That the value of foreign coin as expressed

in the money of account of the United States shall be that of the pure metal of such coin of standard value; and the values of the standard coins in circulation of the various nations of the World shall be estimated quarterly by the Director of the Mint, and be proclaimed by the Secretary of the Treasury immediately after the passage of this Act and thereafter quarterly on the first day of January, April, July and October in each year. And the values so proclaimed shall be followed in estimating the value of all foreign merchandise exported to the United States during the quarter for which the value is proclaimed and the date of the consular certification of any invoice shall, for the purpose of this section, be considered the date of exportation:

Provided, The Secretary of the Treasury may order the reliquidation of any entry at a different value, whenever satisfactory evidence shall be produced to him showing that the value in United States currency of the foreign money specified in the invoice was, at the date of certification, at least ten percentum more or less than the value proclaimed during the quarter in which the consular certification occurred."

When the Director of the Mint has estimated the values of the standard coins of the various countries at that of the pure metal they contain, he has done all that

the law requires him to do in the premises. But when the following of the strict letter of the statute involves ascribing to the coins of a country a value greatly inferior to their actual value, it is certainly proper that attention should be called thereto.

When the free coinage of silver is suspended in a country having the single silver standard, the value of the full legal tender silver coins of such country is very apt to acquire, in its inland trade, a value greater than that of the pure metal they contain.

The rupee of India is at present, a case illustrative of this. Up to the 26th of June 1893, the coinage of silver was free. Since the closing of the Indian Mints on that day to the coinage of silver on private account, the gold value of the silver rupee has always been greater than that of the pure metal in the coin. It is now over thirty percent. higher than the market price of the pure metal in the rupee.

Such being the case it does not seem proper that the Director of the Mint should estimate its value and the Secretary of the Treasury proclaim it as that of the market value of the pure metal it contains, although in doing so both are only obeying the letter of the law. The real value of the Indian rupee is determined by its price in London, but the Director of the Mint has no authority to calculate its value in accordance with that price.

Under circumstances like those just

described, although not exactly similar, I have in the past represented to the Department, when called upon for an expression of opinion on the subject, that the metallic currency of the country in question, should be treated by the Department as a depreciated currency, and that the regulations of the Department governing the calculation of the value of invoices expressed in such currency, should be made in accordance with the value given it in the consular certificates attached to these invoices. At the present time, the silver rupee of India may be looked upon as a depreciated currency, since prior to the beginning of the decline of the price of silver, the Indian rupee had a value of forty-seven cents and four mills in the money of account of the United States. Hence the suggestion made above that, in the circular of the value of foreign coins to be issued April 1st 1897, the space for the value of the Indian rupee be left blank, and that a note be appended, stating that the value of the same shall be determined in accordance with the consular certificates, attached to invoices from the ports of British India.

A question also arises with respect to the Russian rouble. That country has long had a depreciated currency, but it is now preparing to adopt the gold standard. It may be said to

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have even now the gold standard, since the paper roubles or bills of credit of Russia, sometimes called also silver roubles, had a fixed value in gold. Until recently, the value of the paper rouble was a fluctuating one. It has long been the custom of the Director of the Mint to calculate, and of the Secretary of the Treasury to proclaim, the value of the rouble as equal to that of the pure silver in it, although the value of the invoices from that country has for some years past been estimated in accordance with the value ascribed to the rouble in the consular certificates attached to such invoices. Of late, however, an Imperial ukase has declared that one and one-half paper roubles shall be equal to one gold rouble, or to fifty-one cents and four mills in the money of account of the United States. By a ukase of January 3rd 1897, the Russian Minister of Finance was directed to cause to be coined, imperials and half-imperials, bearing as an indication of their price in paper, the former fifteen roubles, and the latter seven roubles, fifty copecks, and to place these coins in circulation as soon as manufactured.

If the silver rouble were as heretofore, valued at that of the pure metal it contains, it would be greatly undervalued.

The difference between the value given it by Imperial ukase, and the present market value of the silver in it, is fully thirty percent., it now having a fixed gold value equal to fifty one cents, and four mills.

I would respectfully recommend that, for the present, the course suggested in the case of the Indian rupee be also followed in that of the Russian rouble. There seems to be no good reason for officially estimating these coins so much below their value, if it can be legally avoided.

On the circular of the value of foreign coins issued January 1, 1897, the mahbub of Tripoli was not mentioned, and I shall omit calculating its value in the future unless you instruct me to the contrary.

The rule prescribed by the Statute cannot be applied to the valuation of the Tripoli mahbub, because it is not a real coin. Neither the mahbub itself nor any of its multiples is stamped. It is simply a money of account said to be equal to 20 Tripoli piasters. But the Tripoli piaster is not equal to the Turkish piaster, and like the mahbub has no actual existence. The value of the pure metal in the mahbub cannot be estimated, because it contains none.

The intrinsic value of the Tripoli piaster is regulated by the course of the gold medjidie at Constantinople. In October 1893, the parities in Tripoli were as follows:

Turkish pound — —	117 Tripoli piasters.
Medjidie — — —	21½ piasters.
20-franc piece — —	102 piasters.
Pound Sterling — —	127½ piasters.

Calculating the value of the mahbub of 20 Tripoli piasters according to that

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ascribed to it above in pounds sterling, would give it a value of 76 cents and 3 mills in the money of account of the United States.

By taking the Turkish pound as above equal to 117 Tripoli piasters, and £100 equal to 110.05 Turkish pounds, (the Constantinople rate of exchange on London, March 13th), the parity is reached of 128.76 Tripoli piasters equal to £1 equal to $4.8665; whence 20 Tripoli piasters or one mahbub equal to 75 cents and 7 mills, which is about its present value.

For the reasons just stated, I discontinued the estimation of the value of the Tripoli mahbub.

Lastly I would respectfully suggest as worthy of your consideration, - when Russia, Japan and India containing a population over thirty-one percent of the population of the Globe, are on the eve of going over to a gold standard, and when apart from China, where silver has always passed by tare and not by tale, only Bolivia, part of Central America, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Mexico and Persia continue to have a silver currency, - whether it would not be better to treat the currency of all single silver standard countries as depreciated currencies, and to have the value of their full legal tender coins determined for custom purposes by the consular certificates attached to invoices of merchandise from such countries. By considering them as depreciated currencies their exact value at the time of shipment could be determined, whereas by the present mode of valuation it can be determined

only approximately. Besides, by considering the currencies of all single silver standard countries as depreciated currencies and estimating their values accordingly, uniformity would be introduced into the method of calculating their values, a uniformity which it now lacks.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 24, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 54	40.00
2 Half Dollars	" 39	1.00
Total		$41.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 48	2.00
Total		$2.00

March 24, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

March 24, 1897.

Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 22nd instant, enclosing the application of Mrs. Mary Stewart Sayre, from the Mint to the Treasury Department has been received and the application has been forwarded to the Civil Service Commission.

Respectfully yours
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 24, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Referring to the last contract for bronze one-cent blanks with the Scoville Manufacturing Company, I think that you should arrange to receive from them so much per month for the remainder of this fiscal year, in order that the delivery of the full amount contracted for may be completed.

I am almost certain that the next contract we make for blanks will be higher than the present price.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 24, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Until further notice you will confine your coinage to gold, subsidiary silver and minor coins.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.
+ + coin standard silver dollars at rate of 800,000 per month.

over.

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Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

+ + + coin standard silver
dollars at rate of (600,000) per month.

March 24, 1897.

Frederick Emery, Esq.,
Chief, Bureau of Statistics,
State Department.

Sir:

I thank you for fifty copies of Part 2, Special Consular Report "Money and Prices" in foreign countries, which you kindly furnished me with.

Yours very truly,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 24, 1897.

Mrs. Homer N. Kelsey,
No 28 Elliott Avenue,
Batavia, New York.

Madam:

In reply to your letter of the 19th instant, requesting to be informed as to what was meant by "seigniorage", I forward you by today's mail a copy of Department Circular No. 123, and would respectfully call your attention to page 60 of the same, where you will find the information desired fully set forth.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 25, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 55	, 40.00
2 Quar. Dollars	,	" 40	, .50
2 Dimes	,	" 41	, .20
Total	,		, $40.70

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Dimes	,	Del. 50	, .20
Total	,		, $.20

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

4 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 142+143	, 4.00
Total	,		, $4.00

March 25, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 24th instant

respecting
Blank forms for the use of the medal clerk, ordered February 12th, I would state that I have requested the Public Printer to make the requisitions "Special" and when received from his office will be sent to your Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 25, 1897.

George W. Moss, Esq.,
Adams Express Co.,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The accounts of the Adams Express Co., for expressage on medals of award of the World's Columbian Exposition, from Waterbury, Connecticut amounting to $2.50, have been approved and referred to the Secretary of the Treasury for payment.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 25, 1897.

Hon. R. P. Bland,
House of Representatives.

Telegram Confirmed.

The Australian Minister of Finance was empowered under the law of August second 1892 to negotiate a loan in order to purchase gold to prepare for the gold standard.

The bonds were sold and purchases of gold made from time to time through the Austro-Hungarian Bank.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint

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March 25, 1897.

A. Hefner, Esq.,
No. 814 Watson Street,
Pittsburg, Penna.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 23rd instant, you are respectfully informed that during the calendar year 1895, there were coined by the Mints of the United States, silver dollars as follows:

Philadelphia	12,880
New Orleans	450,000
San Francisco	400,000
Total	862,880.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 25, 1897.

J. Rode, Esq.,
Ogdensburg, Wisconsin.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 20th instant, I forward you by today's mail a copy of the Public Debt Statements for September, December and February which will give you the balance of gold coin and bullion in the Treasury as requested in your letter.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 25, 1897.

John M. Sailer, Esq.,
No. 108 Milton Avenue,
Janesville, Wisconsin.

Sir:

Your letter of the 18th instant to the Hon. John Sherman has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply you are respectfully informed that individuals are not permitted to deposit silver bullion at the Mints for coinage, but for return in fine bars only.

Every silver dollar coined by the Mints contains 371 1/4 grains of pure silver; at the average price paid by the Government for silver purchased under the Act of July 14th, 1890, ($0.92.44) the cost of the silver contained in the silver dollar would be ($0.71 1/2) giving the Government a profit or seigniorage of 28 1/2 cents on each dollar coined.

Silver certificates are issued only upon the deposits of silver dollars, dollar for dollar, and redeemable only in silver dollars.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 25, 1897.

J. F. Spencer, Esq.,
Grand Junction, Colorado.

Sir:

Your letter of the 17th instant to the Hon. J. C. Bell has been referred to this Bureau and in reply you are respectfully informed that there has been forwarded you by today's mail a copy of Department

Circular No. 123, which will give you the amount of silver coinage to September 1st, 1896. I enclose herewith a statement showing the coinage for the calendar year 1896, also for the months of January and February 1897.

By direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, the coinage of silver dollars was suspended June 1st, 1895, and was resumed on February 1st, 1896. At present silver dollars are being coined by the Mints at New Orleans and San Francisco, while the Mint at Philadelphia is coining gold and subsidiary silver.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 26, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Eagles	,	Del. 42	, .50
		Total	, $.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Eagles	,	Del. 16	, 20.00
2 Double Eagles	,	" 17	, 40.00
		Total	, $60.00

March 26, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

March 26, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury requesting that a die be prepared and a gold medal struck for Daniel E. Lynn, authorized to be bestowed upon him by Joint Resolution of Congress.

You will please instruct the Engraver to proceed to prepare the die as early as practicable, and cause a medal to

be struck and forwarded to this Bureau, properly mounted, and enclosed in case.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 26, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have to advise you that under date of the 24th instant the Acting Secretary of the Treasury approved the official bond of William H. Kelley, as Assistant Assayer of your Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

March 26, 1897.

John J. Valentine, Esq.,
President Wells, Fargo & Co.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your letter of the 18th instant to the Comptroller of the Currency has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply I have to respectfully submit the following as to the actual circulation of the standard silver dollars during the last four years, and at present: I have taken the number in actual circulation Novem-
ber 1st, of each year, as it has been

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found that the largest number were in circulation about this date, and which is as follows:

Date.	Population.	Silver dollars in circulation.	Per capita.
November 1, 1893	67,426,000	58,725,818	0.87
" 1, 1894	68,887,000	56,443,670	0.82
" 1, 1895	70,378,000	58,354,092	0.83
" 1, 1896	71,902,000	58,190,802	0.81
March 1, 1897	72,418,800	55,378,762	0.76

I would remark that the largest number of silver dollars ever in circulation at any given time was on November 1st, 1890, viz: 65,709,564, at which date the estimate of the population of the United States was 63,200,000, which would give a per capita of silver dollars in circulation of $1.04.

Trusting that the foregoing will be satisfactory I am,

Respectfully yours,

R. E. Preston,

Director of the Mint.

March 26, 1897.

Messrs Lemcke & Buechner,

No. 812 Broadway,

New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I will thank you to procure for the use of the Bureau, the following publications:

"Jamieson's Report on the Consumption of silver in China,

"as shown by Balance of Trade between China,

"Foreign Countries etc!"

Raffalovichs a "La Marche Financier", 1896-7"

and forward to this Bureau as early as practicable.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 26, 1897.

William Redman, Esq.,
No. 24 Thirkill Terrace,
Springmill Street, Bradford, England.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of the 10th instant, received. You are privileged to cull from my report anything that you may think will be of service to you, the same being a public document. All we ask is that proper credit be given.

Thanking you for your kind and complimentary expressions,

I am,

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 26, 1897.

F. W. Noa, Esq.,
Melrose Highlands, Mass.

Sir:-

Referring to your letter of the 20th instant, in reference to the supplies of gold and silver which existed in the World 1851-1873, and in which you state that you find the amount then in existence largely in excess of the figures published in my report, I would state that if you will furnish me your figures, separating the bullion and coin, and giving your authority, that I will

take great pleasure in endeavoring to explain the difference between your figures and those in my report.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 27, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-three 61/100 Dollars ($11,843.61) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred and Ten 04/100 Dollars ($110.04) in Silver Coin, making a total of Eleven Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-three 65/100 Dollars ($11,953.65) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in Charge of the United States Assay Office at Boise, as shown by Memorandum No. 34, dated March 25, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 27, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 34, dated March 25, 1897.

of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 34 dated March 20, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $11,993.18; charges $39.53, and net value $11,953.65. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 27, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 U. S. Dollars	Del. 144	2.00
Total		$2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 27, 1897.

Agent Adams Express Co.,
921, Penna. Avenue,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Enclosed please find Treasury draft for $1.25 in payment of your bill for transportation of one Pkge. to Boston, Mass.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director.

March 27, 1897.

Baltimore Copper, Smelting & Rolling Co.,
Keyser Building, Baltimore, Md.

Sirs:-

I have this day requested the Quartermaster of the U. S. Army to receive from you ten tons of copper for shipment to the Mint at San Francisco.

I regret very much my oversight in not making this request before.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 27, 1897.

To the
Quartermaster U. S. Army,
Baltimore, Maryland.

Sir:

I will thank you to receive from the Baltimore Copper Smelting and Rolling Company, ten (10) tons of ingot copper, and forward the same to the Mint of the United States at San Francisco.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 27, 1897.

Sigmund Brothers,
St. Paul, Missouri.

Gentlemen:

In reply to your letter of the 23rd instant you are respectfully informed that one-cent bronze, five cent nickel pieces, dimes

and quarters have been coined at the Mint at Philadelphia during the current calendar year, and if you will remit to the Superintendent of that institution, in currency by registered mail, stating what amount of each of these coins you require, he will forward you the same in like manner. You should also send eight cents or that amount in stamps for the return registration fee.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 29, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quar Dollars	Del. 43	.50
Total		$ .50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	Del. 18	40.00
2 S. S. Dollars	" 51	2.00
Total		$ 42.00

March 29, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You will please forward an additional set of gold, silver and minor proof coins for the Tennessee Centennial Exposition.

I return herewith bills for the medals and coins already forwarded in order that you may include in the bill the set of coins herein ordered. I will take measures to have the same settled for without delay.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 29, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 24th instant, enclosing blue prints for the foundation of one of the small coining presses of your Institution to be sent to the Tennessee Centennial Exposition at Nashville, I would say that it is desirable that the press should be ready for shipment between the seventh and tenth of April.

I will furnish you in a few days the size of the medal to be struck.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 29, 1897.

W. J. Puchett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of April 1897, has been approved for the sum of $3400.00, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint, during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$1,200.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	1,800.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	400.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 29, 1897.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, North Carolina.

Sir:

Your letter of the 24th instant to the Civil Service Commission has been referred to this Bureau and in reply you are respectfully informed that if the laborer borne upon your rolls does not perform his duties satisfactorily, you have full authority to dispense with his services, and to appoint some one else in his place.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 29, 1897.

Ottomar Haupt, Esq.,
No. 1 Sq. La Bruyere,
Paris, France.

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 14th instant, I append hereto a statement showing the exports of silver bullion and silver coin to the East, during the calendar year 1896, from the port of San Francisco:-

Exports of Domestic Silver Bullion to the East,
Calendar Year 1896.

	Ozs.	Value
China	2,289,834	$ 1,535,190
Hongkong	794,303	525,100
Japan	5,286,760	3,556,358
	8,370,897	$ 5,616,648

Exports of Foreign Silver Coin to the East,
Calendar Year 1896.

China	$ 1,000,726
Hongkong	2,720,446
Japan	186,338
	$ 3,907,510

Total Exports $9,524,158

Trusting that the above will be satisfactory, I am,

Yours respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 29, 1897.

Messrs. Frank B. Conger & Co.,
Loan & Trust Building,
Washington, D.C.

Sirs:

Referring to your letter of the 22nd and 24th instant, you are respectfully informed that the same have been referred to the Secretary of the Treasury who selects the papers in which advertisements inviting proposals for supplies required by public institutions under the control of the Treasury Department, shall be inserted.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 29, 1897.

F. Henning, Esq.,
No. 2902 Avenue B.,
Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 25th instant, you are respectfully informed that the first edition of the report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year 1896, consisted of one thousand copies, five hundred of which were sent to Senators and Members of the House of Representatives, the remainder being entirely inadequate to supply the demand for the same. A new edition is now being printed and as soon as received, a copy will be mailed you.

In regard to the rate at which our silver coins are

received abroad, I would say that it is probable that the silver dollars of the United States would be bought by brokers and bankers in London, Paris and Berlin at from ninety-six to ninety-seven cents per piece, as they could be returned to this country, and placed in circulation on a parity with gold.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 29, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.,
Waterbury, Conn.

Sirs:

I will thank you to cause to be prepared a medal of award of the Worlds Columbian Exposition for Robert B. Pritchard, an exhibitor in Group 44, Department of Mines and Mining, and cause the same to be forwarded, with case, to this Bureau as early as practicable.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 29, 1897.

Hon. H. M. Sparkman,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

I will be under many obligations to you if you will kindly call at this Bureau, and sign the report of the Annual Assay Commission of which you were a member, in order that the record may be complete.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 30, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Eighty-six Thousand Four Hundred and Eighty-eight $\frac{77}{100}$ Dollars ($86,488.77) in Gold Coin and One Hundred and Seventy-five $\frac{47}{100}$ Dollars ($175.47) in Silver Coin, making a total of Eighty-six Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty-four $\frac{24}{100}$ Dollars ($86,664.24) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 45, dated March 24, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:

+ + + Assay Office at Helena + Mint at Philadelphia + Thirty-three Thousand Six Hundred and Twenty-seven $\frac{65}{100}$ + ($33,627.65) + Six Hundred and Twelve $\frac{70}{100}$ + ($612.70) + total of Thirty-four Thousand Two Hundred and Forty $\frac{35}{100}$ + ($34,240.35) + Bullion + Assayer + Assay Office at Helena + Memorandum No. 24 + March 26, 1897 + + +

March 30, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver be increased in the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars ($250,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 30, 1896.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 45, dated March 24, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 45 dated March 20, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $86,810.02; charges $145.78, and net value $86,664.24. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to: over.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mont.

Deposit Memorandum No. 34 + March 26, 1897,
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 34
+ March 20, 1897 + + +
$34,333.85; + $93.50, + $34,240.35.
+ + + + +

March 30, 1897.

W. J. Puchett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars ($250,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 30, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

I am in receipt of a communication from the Representative of the Treasury Department at the Tennessee Centennial Exposition, requesting that a suitable person from your Mint be detailed to operate the coining press which it is proposed to exhibit.

Will you kindly furnish me with the name of some suitable person who could be spared for this service.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 30, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins reserved at your Mint during the Months of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 59	40.00
Total		$40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 30, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, to the following: over.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

March 30, 1897.

Senor Don Joaquin Bernado Calvo,
Minister Resident,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

I have received from the Engraver of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, some specimens struck in copper, gold plated of the proposed coins of Costa Rica.

I will be glad to have you call and examine the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 30, 1897.

C. H. Clarke, Esq.,
No. 208 University Avenue,
Toronto, Ontario.

Sir:

Referring to your letter without date, you are respectfully informed that I have sent you a copy of the pamphlet entitled "Mint Processes of the United States" which will describe fully the manner of assaying bullion at the Mints and Assay Offices. For the method of making ore assays, I would suggest

that you obtain a copy of the "Manual of Practical Assaying" by A. Van F. Furman, published by the Scientific Publishing Co., No. 253 Broadway, New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 30, 1897.

F. A. Levine, Esq.,
Box 267, Holdrege, Nebraska.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 25th instant, you are respectfully informed that there were coined during the calendar year 1894, $395,950. in two cent pieces or 19,847,500 pieces.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 30, 1897.

Josiah Monroe, Esq.,
Sec. & Treas'r Juragua Iron Co., Ltd.
No. 1103 Girard Building,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 24th instant, I find upon examination that the Isabella Doubloon or the Isabelino, is called in Cuba, the Centen. The Centen has exactly the same weight as that prescribed by the laws of Spain for the Isabelino, namely, 3.3871 grammes 9/10 fine, which would give it a value of $5.17. As however, the coin is known in Cuba as the Centen, I shall

give it that name in the next circular of the value of foreign coins, to be issued April first.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 31, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 61	40.00
Total		$40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

4 S. S. Dollars	Dels. 52+53	4.00
Total		$ 4.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 145	2.00
Total		$2.00

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March 31, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Months of March 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

March 31, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

You will please receive from the Assistant Treasurer of the United States in your city, three counting boards, and cause the same to be properly repaired, rendering your account for the same to the Department for settlement.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 82

March 31, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

For the enclosed check in your favor for twenty-five dollars, I will thank you to return me per registered mail, twenty-five silver dollars, ordinary coinage, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 31, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I enclose herewith the account of the Baltimore Copper, Smelting and Rolling Co., for twenty thousand pounds of ingot copper, delivered to the Quartermaster of the U. S. Army at Baltimore for shipment to your Mint. Upon receipt of the copper you will please forward the Company a draft on the Assistant Treasury at New York for $2,300.

In order to enable you to make payment in this manner I have this day requested an advance of $2,300. to be made you from the appropriation for the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14, 1890, and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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March 31, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be advanced you the sum of $2,300. from the appropriation for the coinage of Silver Bullion (act July 14, 1890,) to be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer at New York, to pay for Ingot Copper.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

March 31, 1897.

Hon. Donelson Caffery,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 12th instant, enclosing a copy of a petition from the adjusters in the Mint at New Orleans, in which they complain of having been furloughed in November, 1895, I would state that the Secretary of the Treasury having directed the suspension of the coinage of the silver dollars from bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, the appropriation for the loss on worn and uncurrent silver coin transferred from the Treasury to the Mint for recoinage being exhausted, there was no work for the Mint to do and therefore nearly all the force and especially the Coiner's Department were furloughed February 1st, 1896.

Referring to the letter of the Superintendent

of the Mint of the same date, calling attention to the fact that the appropriation for Wages of Workmen and Contingent Expenses for the fiscal year 1898 were largely reduced by the Bill making appropriations for Legislative, Executive and Judicial Expenses of the Government for the fiscal year 1898. I would say that the stock of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, will probably all be consumed in the coinage of silver dollars by the first of September next at the latest, and there will be only a small amount of uncurrent silver coin that can be transferred to the Mint at New Orleans for recoinage.

The amount of gold deposits at New Orleans, averages from $200,000 to $250,000 a year, which you will perceive is not sufficient to continue operations.

It is for these reasons the appropriations were reduced.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 31, 1897.

Hon. Garrett A. Hobart,
Vice President, United States.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 27th instant, recommending Miss Annie B. Koons for a position in the Mint at Philadelphia has been received and referred to the Superintendent of that Institution, in whom the law vests appointments.

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I would say that the positions in the Philadelphia Mint are included in the classified service, but as soon as it becomes necessary to have an examination for adjusters, the positions occupied by ladies, Miss Koons will be notified by the Superintendent.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 31, 1897.

F. W. Hammely, Esq.,
No. 821 Connolton Alley,
Canton, Ohio.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 28th instant, you are respectfully informed that no change in the composition of the five-cent nickel pieces or the one-cent bronze pieces can be made until it is authorized by Congress, which will probably not be done, if at all, for some time to come.

The Mints have no trouble whatever in stamping coins of pure nickel from steel dies.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the

March 31, 1897.

James K. McGuire, Esq.,
Mayor's Office, Syracuse, N.Y.

Sir:

Your letter of the 27th instant requesting that a blank application for position in the Assay

Office at New York be mailed Henry Hamel, has been received and referred to the Civil Service Commission, as Mr. Hamel would be required to take an examination before he could be appointed.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

March 31, 1897.

Miss Estella Ray,
Norbeck, Montgomery Co., Md.

Miss:

In reply to your letter of the 29th instant, you are respectfully informed that the Government pays no premium for any coins.

There were about one and one-half million five cent nickel pieces coined in 1883, without the word "cents".

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 1, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In pursuance of the provisions of section 25 of the act of August 28, 1894, I present in the following table an estimate of the values of the standard coins of the nations of the world.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 1, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Ninety-one Thousand Two Hundred and Forty-nine $\frac{96}{100}$ Dollars ($91,249.96) in Gold Coin, and Four Hundred and Twelve $\frac{74}{100}$ Dollars ($412.74) in Silver Coin, making a total of Ninety-one Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty-two $\frac{70}{100}$ Dollars ($91,662.70) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 46, dated March 27, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 1, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 46, dated March 27, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 46 dated March 43, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $91,864.27; charges $201.57, and net value $91,662.70. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the Bullion Fund of your

Institutions to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 1, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 62	, 40.00
2 Quar. Dollars	,	" 46	, .50
Total	,		$40.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 1, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Months of March 1897 and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director, Mint.

Similar letters to the following: over.

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John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

April 1, 1897.

Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 31st ultimo, you will confine your coinage of gold during the month of April to eagles and half-eagles, in the proportion of about seventy percent. eagles and thirty percent. in half-eagles.

You will continue coining gold at this rate until further notice.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 1, 1897.

To Telegram confirmed.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

As it is probable no fractional silver coinage will be executed at your Mint for some time can you not spare press used in striking half-dollars for the Tennessee Centennial at Nashville? Answer.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 1, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, a bill of the Stationery division, Treasury Department for Stationery shipped you in the Month of February 1897, amounting to $45.54 payable from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint 1897.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

+ + + Stationery division
Treasury Department + Stationery +
Month of February 1897 + $1.08 +
+ Contingent Expenses of your Mint 1897.

W. E. Andrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C..

+ + + Stationery division
Treasury Department + Stationery +
+ Month of February 1897 + $23.02 +
+ Contingent expenses of your Mint 1897.

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April 1, 1897.

John R. Proctor, Esq.,
President, Civil Service Commission.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith index cards of the employes of the Mints of the United States at San Francisco, California, Carson City, Nevada, New Orleans, Louisiana, and Denver, Colorado; also the Assay Offices at New York, St. Louis, Missouri, Charlotte, North Carolina, Helena, Montana, and Boise, Idaho.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 2, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Seventy-seven Thousand Three Hundred and Eighty-one $\frac{58}{100}$ Dollars ($77,381.58) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Sixty-one $\frac{39}{100}$ Dollars ($261.39) making a total of Seventy-seven Thousand Six Hundred and Forty-two $\frac{97}{100}$ Dollars ($77,642.97) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 47, dated March 30, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 2, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 47, dated March 30, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 47, dated March 26, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $77.774.65; charges $131.68, and net value $77.642.97. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 2, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of April 1897, has been approved for the sum of $46,850.00, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$ 3,500.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	30,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	10,000.
Parting & Refining bullion		3,000.
Storage of Silver Bullion (Act July 14, 1890)		350.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director, Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to: over.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

\+ + + April 1897 +
+ $13,000.00 + + +

Salaries,	1897,	$ 3,200.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	2,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	800.
Parting & Refining Bullion —		7,000.

April 2, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 31st ultimo, Certificate of Deposit No. 9307 for $48. being on account of Assayer's fees, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to his office.

No personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a Miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:

\+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 9308
for $247.73 + Alloy Charges +
+ personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

\+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 9309 +
for $7,005.42 + Parting & Refining Charges +
personal credit + Bullion + Appropriation for Parting +

Similar letters except as noted, to:

over.

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Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 1656
+ $59.00 + Special Assays (March) +
No personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.
To same address:-
+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 1657
for $737.85 + Sales of By-Product (March)
+ no personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 1661 +
for $703.24 + Alloy Charges + +
no personal credit + Bullion + Miscellaneous receipt.

+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 1662
for $21,541.63 + Parting & Refining Charges
+ personal credit + Bullion + Parting & Refining Bullion.

April 2, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, two accounts of the Union Pacific (and Missouri River Bridge) Railway Co., for the transportation in the Months of October and November 1897 from Omaha, Neb. to Ogden, Utah of Ingot Copper amounting to $46.04, consigned to your care payable from the appropria-

over.

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tion for Contingent expences of your mint fiscal year 1897.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

+ + + two accounts + Union Pacific and Missouri River Bridge + + October and November 1897 + Council Bluffs to Galesburg, Colo. of one box castings, amounting to 25¢ + Contingent Expenses + year 1897. Duplicate bills of lading herewith.

April 2, 1897.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement a bill of the Stationery division, Treasury Department, for Stationery shipped you in the month of February 1897, amounting to $6.95 payable from the following appropriations for Contingent expenses of your office fiscal year 1897.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of Mint.

April 3, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent and Refinery Expense accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York City, N.Y. for the Month ending March 31, 1897 rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent April - 1897.
" recd " — 1897.

April 3, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement your Salary, Wages, Contingent & Refinery accounts for the month ending March 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 3, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Months of March 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 3, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

The following coins reserved at your Mint during the Month of March 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 S. S. Dollars	Del 146 ,	2.00
	Total , ,	$2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 5, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the Mint of the United States at New Orleans to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of two thousand and twenty dollars ($2,020) payable as follows:

In Treasury Notes, issued under Act July 14, 1890. $ 2,000.
Gold Certificates 20

The Treasury Notes referred to were received in exchange for silver dollars.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 5, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver be increased in the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 5, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

I have requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of your Mint to the Treasury of the sum of $2,020, payable as follows:-

In Treasury Notes, issued under Act of July 14, 1890 — $2,000.
Gold Certificates — — — — — — 20.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 5, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 5, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins received at your Mint during

the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Dollars	,	Del. 47	, 1.00
2 Quar. Dollars	,	" 48	, .50
		Total	, $1.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

March 1897

2 S. S. Dollars		Del. 56	, 2.00
		Total	, $2.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

April 1897

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 147	, 2.00
		Total	, $2.00

April 5, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of April 1897 has been approved for the sum of $11,200.00 payable from the following appropriations made for the support

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of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$ 2,700.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	7,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	1,500.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:
Wm. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

\+ + + April 1897 +
\+ + $ 436.60 + +

Salaries,	1897,	$ 226.60
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	90.00
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	120.00*

*This amount exhausts the appropriation for the entire year. I would be pleased to receive your explanation of same.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

\+ + + April 1897 +
\+ + $ 391.40 + + +

Salaries,	1897,	$ 247.20
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	82.40
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	61.80

April 5, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained

in your letter of the 31st ultimo, Certificate of Deposit No. 226, for $2.00, being on account of Special Assay has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to his office.

No personal credit to be given you on your Bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:

+ + 31st ult. Certificate of Deposit
No. 227 for $5.70 + Alloy Charges +
+ personal credit + Bullion + Miscellaneous receipt.

+ + 31st ult. Certificate of Deposit
No. 228 +$22.98 + Parting & Refining Charges +
+ personal credit + Bullion + Appropriation
for Parting and Refining Bullion.

Similar letters except as noted to:
Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

+ + 31st ult. Certificate of Deposit
No. 1869 for $22.00 + Special Assays +
+ No personal credit + Bullion + Miscellaneous receipt.

+ + 1st inst. Certificate of Deposit +
No. 1871 for $65.72 + Deposit-Melting Room Grains
+ personal credit + Bullion + Miscellaneous receipt.

+ + 1st inst. Certificate of Deposit
No. 1871 for $40.44 + Melting, Assaying & Stamping Charges
+ personal credit + Bullion + Miscellaneous receipt.

April 5, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

The Representative of the Treasury Department at the Tennessee Centennial Exposition, informs me that he has made a contract with the Executive Committee of the Exposition which calls for the striking of a medal about the size of a half dollar.

Upon the receipt of your letter of recent date, stating that the press you would furnish could strike a medal of the size of a quarter dollar only, I communicated with the Superintendent of the Mint at New Orleans, requesting him to inform me whether the press used in striking half dollars for that Institution could not be spared for the Tennessee Exposition. In reply he stated that they have three presses, one of which the arch is cracked, and the other two are required for the current coinage. Hence it is impracticable to obtain a press from that Mint.

I will thank you to go over the ground carefully again, and see whether it is not possible for you to spare a press that will strike a medal the size of the half-dollar. An early reply is solicited.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 5, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith letter from Abram Selley to the Secretary of the Treasury, referred to this Bureau for report.

I will thank you to inform me, as early as practicable, any facts that the records of the Mint may show in regard to Selley's original appointment, returning the letter to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 5, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, an account of the Baltimore & Ohio R. R. and Connections Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of July & Aug't. 1896, from Baltimore, Md. to Chicago, Ills. of Ingot Copper, amounting to $72.00 consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint, fiscal year 1897. Duplicate Bill & B/L herewith enclosed.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

April 5, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Referring to your statistical account of expenditures in the collection of statistics of the production of precious metals in Colorado, during the current calendar year, I have to say that a detailed statement of expenditures must be rendered by the person incurring same, duly sworn to, and the account should be made up on the ordinary blank accompanied by an abstract of disbursements, where necessary, upon which should appear the amount of each voucher.

I return herewith all papers forwarded with the account, except the letter transmitting certificate of deposit of balance which is not necessary to you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 5, 1897.

Messrs. Carson & Ealy,
Caro, Michigan.

Gentlemen:

Your letter of the 1st instant with enclosure received, and the same has been referred to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, who will return you the value of the gold dust enclosed.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April

Dr. David T. Day,
Chief, Division of Mineral Resources,
Geological Survey.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 2nd
& regret to state that I shall not be
to furnish you with the total produ
value of the gold and silver in the
States for 1896, until about the first o
& have not yet received returns f
the Pacific States and Territories.

Respectfully y
R. E. Pres
Director of the

April 5,

Frank Heaney, Esq.,
No. 705 South Ninth Street,
Springfield, Ills.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 31st ult
you are respectfully informed that the co
of the bronze two cent pieces was discon
by the Act of February 12th 1873, and
coinage of the three cent nickel pie
by the Act of September 26th 1890.

Respectfully you
R. E. Preston
Director of the M

April 5, 18

Claude M. Johnson, Esq.,
Director, Bureau of Engraving & Printing,
Washington, D. C.

Sir: I transmit herewith package containi

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medals of award of the World's Columbian Exposition, for the following:-

New Jersey School for the Feeble Minded.

Medar & Cleland.

These medals were struck per request contained in your letter of the fifteenth ultimo.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 5, 1897.

George P. Merrill, Esq.,
Curator, Department of Geology,
National Museum, Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, I have to state that the final figures of the production of gold and silver in the World during the calendar year 1896, have not yet been compiled.

I forward you by today's mail a copy of the report on the production of gold and silver for the calendar year 1896, and would respectfully refer you to page 17 for the production of the United States for the calendar year 1895, and for the production of the World to pages 342-4.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 5, 1897.

A. D. Marble, Esq.,
Lawson, O. T.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 26th ultimo,

requesting to be informed whether the United States is now a gold standard country, I would respectfully refer you to pages 37-38 Department Circular No. 123, a copy of which is sent you by today's mail.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 5, 1897.

James P. Moser, Esq.,
Spearsville, Indiana.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, you are respectfully informed that the value of all gold deposits at the Mints is determined by assay.

The Mints can legally refuse any deposit of gold of less value than $100., but it is not the practice to do so. If the bullion is not too base for Mint operations, it will be received and the value will be returned the depositor.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 5, 1897.

C. H. Purington, Esq.
Assistant Geologist, Geological Survey,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 1st instant, you are respectfully informed that the full report of the production of the precious

metals in Alaska for the calendar year 1896, has not yet reached this Bureau, but it is expected in about two weeks, when I will take great pleasure in furnishing you with the information desired.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 5, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Company,
Waterbury, Connecticut.

Sir:

I will thank you to cause to be struck and forwarded to this Bureau as early as practicable, a medal of award of the World's Columbian Exposition for

Georg Bahr, Puerto Cortes, Honduras,

the medal struck for him having been lost in transmission.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

P. S.

A case should accompany the medal.
R. E. P.

April 6, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Carson to that of the United States Mint at San Francisco of the sum of

Fifty-four Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty-six $\frac{67}{100}$ Dollars ($54,366.67) in Gold Coin, being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Superintendent of the United States Mint at Carson as shown by Memorandum No. 5839-5840, dated March 27, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 6, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 5839+5840, dated Mch. 27, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at San Francisco, Shipment No. 12, dated March – 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $54,372.35; charges $5.68, and net value $54,366.67. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at San Francisco.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 6, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during

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the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Double Eagles	Del. 66	40.00
Total		$40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

March 1897

2 Eagles	Del. 19	20.00
Total		$20.00

April 6, 1897.

E. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of April 1897, has been approved for the sum of $3,400.00, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$ 1,500.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	1,200.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	300.
Parting & Refining Bullion,	———	400.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to: over.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

April 1897

$2,300.00

Salaries	1897,	$ 700.
Wages of Workmen	1897,	1,100.
Contingent Expenses	1897,	500.

April 6, 1897.

Samuel Hartland, Esq.,
Hawk Run, Clearfield Co., Pa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 26th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that application for appointment as Laborer in the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia should be made to the Superintendent of that Institution.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 6, 1897.

E. N. Lloyd, Esq.,
Pioneer, Williams Co., Ohio.

Sir:

In compliance with your request of the 24th ultimo, a copy of Department Circular No. 123 is mailed you today.

You could only obtain full information as to the International Monetary Conference held in 1878-81-92 by obtaining a copy of the proceedings, of which

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I regret to state the Department has none for distribution.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 7, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, be increased in the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Montana National Bank at Helena.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:

\+ + + Assay Office at Boise
+ in the sum of Fifty Thousand + $50,000.-
+ + lawful money + Assayer in charge
+ Assistant Treasurer U. S. at San Francisco, by wire.

April 7, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit

with the Montana National Bank at Helena.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

+ + + Fifty Thousand
Dollars $50,000.- + + with the
Assistant Treasurer of the United States at San Francisco, by mire.

April 7, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Double Eagles	Del. 57	40.00
Total		$ 40.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

+ + March 1897 + +

2 Eagles	Del. 20	20.00
Total		$ 20.00

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April 7, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of April 1897, has been approved for the sum of $29,500.00 payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint, during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897.	$ 3,500.
Wages of Workmen,	1897.	17,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897.	2,000.
Parting & Refining bullion	———	2,000.
Coinage of Silver Bullion, (Act July 14, 1890)		5,000.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

+ + + April 1897 +

+ + $823.05 + + +

Salaries,	1897.	$ 263.70
Wages of Workmen,	1897.	559.35
Contingent Expenses,	———	

April 7, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two

subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 7, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In the award made for supplies for Your Mint for the fiscal year, 1893, was that for 125,000 pounds of ingot copper to Joseph Friedenstein at $0.11,64 per pound. It appears that no copper was bought of Mr. Friedenstein during the fiscal year 1893, and he has brought suit in the Court of Claims for $2,816.57 which sum, he alleges is the loss caused him by the Government failing to purchase the copper which he contracted to supply the Mint.

I will thank you to cause the records of your Mint to be searched and furnish me by return mail, if practicable, copies of any correspondence that passed between the Mint and Mr. Friedenstein prior to the date the Superintendent awarded the contract to him. It is very desirable to be informed whether it was specifically stated by the Superintendent of the Mint, that 125,000 pounds of ingot copper would

be required during the fiscal year 1893. The examination of the accounts of your Mint shows that copper costing $237. was purchased during the fiscal year, 1893, and this from the Baltimore Copper Smelting & Rolling Co.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 7, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 6th instant, enclosing your account, and advising shipment by express of twelve (12) gold and six (6) silver life saving medals for the State Department has been received.

The Express Company have delivered the medals and they have been transmitted to the State Department together with your account for the same, with the request that a draft for $345.27 be remitted you as early as practicable.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 7, 1897.

Telegram Confirmed.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Please reply today to letter of fifth instant, in reference to press for Tennessee Centennial Exposition.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 7, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent U.S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 31st ultimo, Certificate of Deposit No. 393 for $168.70, being on account of Sales of Old Material has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to this office.

No personal credit to be given you in your bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted to same address:-

\+ + + Certificate of Deposit
No. 394 for $74.11 + Sales of By Products
\+ + No personal credit +
Bullion + + Miscellaneous receipt.

Similar letters except as noted, to:-

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U.S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

\+ + + Certificate of Deposit
No 4542 for $25.00 + Special Assays +
\+ No personal credit + Bullion + Miscellaneous receipt.

\+ + + Certificate of Deposit
No. 4543 for $1,173.68 + Net value of Gold
and Silver contained in old broken crucibles, Sold,
\+ personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

over.

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+ + + Certificate of Deposit
No 4544 for $1,244.56 + Value Sweep Bar,
+ personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

+ + + Certificate of Deposit
No 4545 for $1,250.97 + "M. A. S." Charges
+ personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

Similar letters except as noted to:

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

+ + + Certificate of Deposit
No 142 for $366.05 + "M. A. & Stamping Charges"
+ personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

+ + + Certificate of Deposit
No. 143 for $26.00 + Special Assays +
No personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

April 7, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

March 7, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of State.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith twelve (12) gold and six (6) silver medals, struck in compliance with your letter of the fifteenth ultimo.

I also enclose herewith, bill of the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia for the medals, mounting, cases and express charges amounting in the aggregate to $245.20, for which sum I will thank you to cause a draft to be remitted him as early as practicable.

Please acknowledge receipt of the medals to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 8, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Eighty-four Thousand One Hundred and Thirty-nine $\frac{99}{100}$ Dollars ($84,139.99) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Fifty-nine $\frac{34}{100}$ Dollars ($259.34) in Silver Coin, making a total of Eighty-four Thousand Three Hundred and Ninety-nine $\frac{33}{100}$ Dollars ($84,399.33) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded

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by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver as shown by Memorandum No. 48 dated April 5, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + Mint at Denver + Mint at Philadelphia + Four Thousand and Forty-six $\frac{03}{100}$ + ($4,046.03) + Thirty $\frac{48}{100}$ + ($30.48) + total of Four Thousand and Seventy-six $\frac{51}{100}$ + ($4,076.51) + Bullion + Assayer + Mint at Denver + Memorandum No. 48½ + April 5, 1897 + +

+ + Assay Office at Helena + Mint at Philadelphia + Twenty Four Thousand One Hundred and Forty-one $\frac{62}{100}$ + ($24,141.62) + One Hundred and Ninety $\frac{00}{100}$ + ($190.00) + total of Twenty-four Thousand Three Hundred and Thirty-one $\frac{62}{100}$ + ($24,331.62) + Bullion + Assayer + Helena + + Memorandum No. 35 + April 6, 1897 + +

+ + Assay Office at Charlotte + Mint at Philadelphia + Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred and Five $\frac{50}{100}$ + ($18,505.50) + Ninety $\frac{42}{100}$ + ($90.42) + total of Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred and Ninety-five $\frac{92}{100}$ + ($18,595.92) + Bullion + Assayer + Assay Office at Charlotte + Memorandum No. 3 + April 5, 1897 + + +

+ + Assay Office at St. Louis + Mint at Philadelphia + Ten Thousand

Five Hundred and Ten $\frac{00}{100}$ + ($10,510.00) +
+ Eighty-one $\frac{31}{100}$ + ($81.31) + total of
Ten Thousand Five Hundred and Ninety-
one $\frac{31}{100}$ + ($10,591.31) + Bullion +
Assayer + Assay Office at St. Louis +
Memorandum No. 255 + April 5, 1897 + +

April 8, 1897.

W. J. Puchett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 48, dated April 5, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 48 dated March 31, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $84,544.87; charges $145.54, and net value $84,399.33. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

W. J. Puchett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Deposit Memorandum No. 48½ + April 5, 1897
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 48½
+ March 31, 1897 + + + +
$4,076.51; — —, — $4,076.51
+ + + Mint at Philadelphia.

over.

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E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Deposit Memorandum No. 35 + April 6, 1897
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 35
+ March 31, 1897 + + + +
$24,391.58; + $59.96, + $24,331.62.
+ + + + +

W. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Deposit Memorandum No. 3 + April 5, 1897
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 3
+ March 31, 1897 + + +
$18,642.16; + $46.24 + $18,595.92.
+ + + + + +

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Deposit Memorandum No. 255 + April 5, 1897,
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 255
+ March 31, 1897 + + +
$10,623.02; + $31.71 + $10,591.31.
+ + Mint at Philadelphia.

April 8, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the

Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Eagles , Del. 68 , 20.00.

Total , , $20.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 8, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I will thank you to inform me what your balance of metal resulting from the melting of worn and uncurrent nickel coins amounts to. Please also state, whether you would be able to receive any uncurrent nickels from the Treasurer for recoinage before the first of July next.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 8, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit by today's mail the labels to be used in shipping the coining press to Nashville for the Tennessee Centennial Exposition. The shipment should be made by the Chesapeake & Ohio R. R. as special arrangements have been made with that Company.

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Mr. Downing's per diem will be paid by the Mint and your recommendation that he be allowed four dollars ($4.) per diem while attending the Exposition is approved.

He will be allowed by the Department, two dollars and fifty cents ($2.50) for his living expenses.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 8, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You will please instruct the Engraver of your Mint to prepare without delay, a die of the size of the half dollar to be used in striking medals at the Tennessee Centennial Exposition at Nashville.

It has been decided that one side of the medal should bear the imprint of your Mint, and the other side "Tennessee Centennial Exposition, Nashville, 1897."

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 8, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following Reports of the Director of the

Mint have been mailed you this day, —
25 Copies of the Twenty-fourth Annual Report of the Director of the Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

April 8, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, in regard to $2,140. advanced you from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses, and of which you were advised by this Bureau as having been made from the appropriation for Coinage of Silver Bullion, purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, I would state that the error, which was made in this office can be more readily corrected, as indicated in the letter of the Auditor for the Treasury Department, under date of the 27th ultimo, than otherwise, as the method suggested by you would necessitate changes in the books of four divisions of the Department, while the method

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suggested to you by the Auditor would necessitate no change.

I regret that the error was made in this Office.

You will please comply with the request of the Auditor.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 8, 1897.

W. E. Andrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, North Carolina.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 6th instant, you are respectfully informed that under the circumstances it will be necessary for you to defer the payment of Henry Troemner's bill for balances and weights until after the passage of the Deficiency Bill. This Bill has passed the House of Representatives, and is now in the Senate. I will advise Mr. Troemner.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 8, 1897.

W. E. Andrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages and Contingent expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the month ending March 31, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

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April 8, 1897.

J. H. Beham, Esq.,
Como, Wisconsin.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 3rd instant, you are respectfully informed that the Department publishes no catalogue of coins nor pays premiums on the same.

The small piece referred to as a fifty cent gold piece was manufactured by a jeweler, and not coined by the State of California.

A large number of these pieces, designated as twenty-five and fifty cent gold pieces, were manufactured a number of years ago by jewelers in San Francisco. The fifty-cent piece contains about ten or twelve cents worth of gold and the twenty-five cent piece about eight cents worth.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 8, 1897.

T. C. Gregg, Esq.,
Asst. Cashier, Commercial Bank,
West Jefferson, Ohio.

Sir:

I return per registered mail today, the samples transmitted in your letter of December 30th last, with the information that the samples enclosed were brass, and are of no value.

I regret that by an oversight this should have escaped attention so long, the same having been called to the attention of the

Department by a letter of inquiry from the Postmaster of your town.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 8, 1897.

Mineralized Rubber Co.,
No. 18 Cliff Street,
New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

Your letter of the 8th instant received in reference to the amount of bond required from bidders for supplies for the Mint at Philadelphia, and the same has been referred to the Superintendent of that institution for his consideration.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 8, 1897.

J. Van Deventer, Esq.,
Knoxville, Tenn.

Sir:

Your letter of the 5th instant to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply you are respectfully informed that I am unable to give you the amount of gold produced from the Dahlonega gold fields.

This Bureau does not collect the statistics by individual mines or districts, but confines itself to the aggregate production of each State.

I forward you by today's mail a copy of the report of the Director of the Mint on the Production of the Precious Metals for 1895, and would respectfully refer you to pages 102-106 inclusive.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 8, 1897.

W. W. Waite, Esq.,
Cashier, Hughes County Bank,
Blunt, South Dakota.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 20th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that Mr. F. T. Carpenter of Deadwood, South Dakota, estimates the gold product of South Dakota for 1896, to be 244,700 fine ounces of gold and the silver product to have been 178,000 ounces.

I forward you by today's mail a copy of the report on the production of the Precious Metals for the calendar year 1895.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 9, 1897.

Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Telegram Confirmed

Send by mail today copy of schedule used by bidders in making proposals for supplies for fiscal year 1893.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

April 9, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Eagles	Del. 69	20.00
Total		$20.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 148	2.00
Total		$2.00

April 9, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Months of April 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.
March 1897

April 9, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, an account of the Louisville & Nashville Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of September 1896, from Washington, D.C. to New Orleans, La. of Stationery, amounting to $3.57, consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint 1897.

Duplicate bill and B/L enclosed herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

April 9, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the — Certificate of Deposit No. 307 for $ 236.56, being on account of M. A. & S. Charges, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury

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properly indorsed and returned to his office.

Personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:

\+ + + Certificate of Deposit
No 307 for $217.50 + Special Bullion Assays
\+ No personal credit + Bullion
\+ + as a miscellaneous receipt.

\+ + + Certificate of Deposit
No 307 for $36.25 + D. M. Room Sweeps
\+ personal credit + Bullion +
\+ as a miscellaneous receipt.

April 9. 1897.

Frank M. Gregg, Esq.,
No. 234 La Salle Street,
Chicago, Illinois.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 24th ultimo, requesting to be informed as to electrotypes of the World's Columbian Exposition, you are respectfully informed that parties to whom medals have been awarded can have electrotypes of the same made by any party they may desire. The "Children's Home Society" appears entitled to a medal in Group 147.

The prints enclosed by you are returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 9, 1897.

A. S. Yarbrough, Esq.,
Como, Mississippi.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 5th instant you are respectfully informed that assays of ores are not made by this Bureau but at the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, N. C., at a charge of three dollars for each assay of gold or silver.

It is probable that if the specimens referred to by you were forwarded to this Bureau that it could be readily determined whether it would be worth while for the owner of the same to have an assay made. It is more than probable that they consist merely of pyrites of iron or something of that character.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 10, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Ninety-seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty-four $\frac{70}{100}$ Dollars ($97,744.70) in Gold Coin, and Sixty-six $\frac{36}{100}$ Dollars ($66.36) in Silver Coin, making a total of Ninety-seven Thousand Eight Hundred and Eleven $\frac{06}{100}$ Dollars ($97,811.06)

being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 49 dated April 7, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 10, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

Referring to your reference of the sixth instant, of the letter of the Attorney General, asking for additional information in regard to the suit of Joseph Friedenstein vs. the United States in the Court of Claims, I have the honor to enclose herewith schedule of the various supplies required for the use of the Mint at Philadelphia for the fiscal year ended June 30th 1893, for which proposals were invited by public advertisement. An examination of the schedule, class 2, states the amount of copper that would be required at 125,000 pounds, more or less.

The contract, as stated in my letter of March 11th 1897, was awarded by the Superintendent of the Mint with the approval of the Director, to Joseph Friedenstein at $0.11,44 per pound. An examination of the advertisement calling for the proposals does not state the amount of copper that would be required, that appearing only in the printed schedule enclosed, copies of which were furnished the bidders. No copper was purchased

from Mr. Friedenstein during the fiscal year 1893, but 2,000 pounds of a special brand were purchased in June 1893, from the Baltimore Copper, Smelting & Rolling Co., at $0.11,85 per pound.

I submit herewith copy of a letter addressed by Mr. Friedenstein to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, under date of January 5th 1893, and a copy of the reply thereto, under date of January 7th 1893, in which Mr. Friedenstein was notified by the Superintendent that, owing to the suspension of the coinage of the standard silver dollars, no copper would be required unless the resumption of such coinage was authorized.

The average monthly price of Lake copper per pound, at New York, from May 1892 to June 30th 1893, was as follows:-

1892.		1893.	
May	$0.11,625	January	$0.12,125
June	11,875	February	12,000
July	11,500	March	11,875
August	11,500	April	11,375
September	11,125	May	11,000
October	11,500	June	11,000
November	11,875		
December	12,375		

The letter and enclosure of the Attorney General are returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 10, 1897.

W. J. Puchett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 49, dated April 7, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 49 dated April 3, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $97.972.46; charges $161.40, and net value $97,811.06. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 10, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Eagles	,	Del 70	, 20.00
2 Dimes	,	" 49	, .20
Total	,		$ 20.20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 10, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage & Storage of Silver Bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Month ending March 31, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:-

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nevada.

+ + + Salary, Wages, + Contingent and Refinery expense + + Month + March 31, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

+ + + Salary, Wages, + and Contingent expense + Month + March 31, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

+ + + Bullion and + Coin Accounts + Quarter + March 31, 1897.

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April 10, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Until further notice you will pay for silver contained in gold deposits at the rate of fifty-six cents per ounce standard.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to the following:-

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

April 10, 1897.

Telegrams

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Until further notice pay for silver contained in gold deposits at the rate of fifty-six cents per ounce standard.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar telegrams to the following:

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

over.

Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

April 10, 1897.

Charles E. Barber, Esq.,
Engraver, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 9th instant received, and in reply I would state that I will be unable to arrange when you can have a sitting of the President until next week as he is absent from the city.

I will endeavor to arrange for the sitting as early as practicable and will advise you when to come.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 10, 1897.

J. W. Hoffman, Esq.,
No. 107 Broadway,
Sing Sing, N.Y.

Sir:

In reply to your postal of the 5th instant, you are respectfully informed that the Government pays no premium on coins. In order to ascertain whether

there is a premium on the Columbian half-dollar coinage of 1892, you should make application to some coin dealer or collector.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 12, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Seventy-one Thousand and Nineteen 42/100 Dollars ($71,019.42) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Ninety-five 44/100 Dollars ($295.44) in Silver Coin, making a total of Seventy-one Thousand Three Hundred and Fourteen 86/100 Dollars ($71,314.86) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 50, dated April 7, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ — + + Assay Office at Boise + Mint at Philadelphia + Seven Thousand Three Hundred and Seventy 34/100 + ($7,370.34) + Fifty-six 34/100 + ($56.34) + Seven Thousand Four Hundred and Twenty-six 68/100 + ($7,426.68) + Bullion + Assayer + Assay Office at Boise + Memorandum No. 35 + April 7, 1897 + — +

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April 12, 1897.

To the Honorable,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

Under date of January 27th 1897, I had the honor to request an appropriation of five thousand dollars ($5,000.) be procured to supply a deficiency in the appropriation for "Freight on Bullion between the Mints and Assay Offices" for the fiscal year 1897, which sum will be inadequate for the following reasons:

First, since this estimate was submitted, a transfer of twenty million dollars in gold bullion has been made from the Assay Office at New York to the Mint at Philadelphia, the express charges on which were $8,009.48, and from the further fact that the deposits of gold bullion at the receiving institutions, especially that of the Mint at Denver, continue to increase.

I estimate that it will be necessary that an appropriation of twelve thousand dollars ($12,000) be procured instead of five thousand dollars ($5,000.) to supply the deficiency in the appropriation for "Freight on Bullion between the Mints and Assay Offices", for the current fiscal year.

During the month of March 1896, the shipments of gold bullion from the minor Assay Offices to the Mint at Philadelphia amounted to $449,187., while for the month of March 1897, the shipments aggregated $826,000. The shipments for the months of April, May and June, I estimate

will approximate one million dollars per month.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 12, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Bullion accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Helena, Montana, for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts forwarded April 1, 1897.
" received " 7, 1897.

April 12, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 50, dated April 3, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 50 dated April 3, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $71,467.16; charges $152.30, and net value $71,314.86. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your

Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Deposit Memorandum No. 35, + April 7, 1897, + Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 35 + March 31, 1897 + + +
$7,445.61; + $18.93, + $7,426.68.
+ + + + +

April 12, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Bullion accounts for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

April 12, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint

during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Dimes	Del. 50	,	.20
Total	,	,	$ .20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

4 S. S. Dollars	Dels 57+58	,	4.00
Total	,	,	$ 4.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 149	,	2.00
Total	,	,	2.00

April 12, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 26th ultimo in regard to transferring eight million silver dollars to the vaults in the Post Office building for storage, I have to request that you will advise me when you propose to commence making the transfer as it will be necessary to obtain authority from the Secretary of the Treasury for the use of one of the elevators to hoist the coins

to the second story of the building in which the vaults are located.

I am of the opinion that we must employ the United States Express Company to transport this coin from the Mint to the Post Office building as by the terms of the contract they are made the exclusive agents for the transportation of public monies and securities. The expenses of transportation should be paid from the appropriation contained in the Act of July 14th 1890, for the storage of silver bullion and silver dollars.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 12, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 9th instant, in reference to the transfer of uncurrent minor coin, I have to inform you that the Treasurer will transfer to you $50,000. in uncurrent minor coin of different denominations immediately.

If you think you can handle any more than this sum between now and the settlement, please advise me what amount you would be willing to receive.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 12, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:-

The enclosed paper is herewith returned for signature, as without this formality it is worthless as a voucher. Your statistical account is otherwise irregularly made up, but I will approve same upon return of the enclosed, properly signed.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

April 12, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer in Charge,
U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 5th instant, you are respectfully informed that the Deficiency Bill, which contains the appropriation to supply the deficiency in the appropriation of your office for the current fiscal year, is now pending in the Senate, and it is to be hoped will become a law shortly.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 12, 1897.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter except as noted to:-
F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

+ + + Salary, Wages and Contingent Expense + + Month + March 31, 1897.

April 12, 1897.

Consolidated Kansas City S. & R. Co.,
Argentine, Kansas.

Gentlemen:

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant, I would state that the weights used in the Mints for a series of years, have been purchased from Henry Troemner, No. 710 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and which have always been satisfactory.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 12, 1897.

J. F. Halloran, Esq.,
General Manager, "Mining & Scientific Press",
No 225 Market Street, San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your letter of the 6th instant, stating that you would like to obtain electrotypes of the engravings in the pamphlet entitled "Mint Process", has been received, and referred to the Public Printer.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 12, 1897.

Matt Kemp, Esq.,
Clarissa, Minnesota.

Sir:

Your letter of the 9th instant, enclosing part of a ten-dollar National Bank note has been received, and referred to the Treasurer of the United States.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 12, 1897.

G. G. Robertson, Esq.,
Postmaster, Deer Brook, Miss.

Sir:

In reply to your postal you are respectfully informed that the Government does not pay premiums on coins.

There were coined in 1883, 1,500,000 five-cent nickel pieces without the word

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"cent", but there is no premium paid for them by the Government.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 12, 1897.

Hon. William M. Stewart,
United States Senate.

Sir:

I regret that by an oversight, the inquiries contained in your letter of the second instant, have not been answered before, and I now respectfully submit the following in reply:

For every 23.22 grains of pure gold deposited at the Mints and Assay Offices, the depositor is allowed one dollar.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 12, 1897.

William J. Winegar, Esq.,
No. 3109 East Broad Street,
Richmond, Virginia.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 9th instant, you are respectfully informed that this Bureau does not collect the output of individual mines, but confines itself to the total product of the State.

I send you by today's mail a copy of the report of the Director of the Mint on the Production of Gold and Silver for 1895, and would respectfully refer you to pages 95-97.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director of the Mint.

April 13, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver be increased in the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the National, Colorado National and Denver National Banks Denver, Colorado.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 13, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Bullion accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, N. C. for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts forwarded April 8, 1897,
" received April 12, 1897.

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April 13, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars $300,000.- and that the same be placed to your credit with the National, Colorado National and Denver National Banks, Denver.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 13, 1897.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Bullion accounts, for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, with my approval.

Attention is called to the calculations of standard weight and value of the silver contained in Deposits #26 and #40; these errors, although small, should not occur. Please exercise more care in future.

Forward E. E. statement and letter, Form 550 "A".

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

April 13, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Eagles	Del. 72	20.00
Total		$20.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 59	2.00
Total		$2.00

April 13, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 12th instant, asking authority to purchase 25,000 pounds of five-cent nickel blanks from the Scovill Manufacturing Company, I would state that I am informed by the Treasurer of the United States that they have on hand a large supply of five cent nickel pieces that are suitable for reissue, and therefore I do not think it advisable to add to

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the outstanding stock of nickel coins by purchasing new material for coinage.

I will request the Treasurer to transfer to you from time to time, as you may require, such amounts of five-cent nickel pieces as may be needed to meet the demands upon you for the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 13, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Inasmuch as Friday is a legal holiday in your State and Saturday a half-holiday, you are authorized to close the Mint from Thursday at four P. M., until Monday the 19th instant, to enable you to make such repairs as may be necessary.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 13, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

You are hereby authorized to come to Washington at such a time this week as will be most convenient for you, for consultation in regard to matters relating to your Mint.

over.

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While engaged in this service your necessary traveling and other expenses will be paid from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint for the current fiscal year.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 13, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the — Certificate of Deposit No. 9318 for $50,000.00 being on account of Minor Coinage Profits, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to this office.

Personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as Minor Coinage Profits.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

+ + + 7th instant + Certificate of Deposit No. 415 for $4,131.98 + Parting and Refining Charges + + personal credit + Bullion + credit of the Appropriation for Parting and Refining Bullion.

+ + 7th instant + Certificate of Deposit No 416 for $490.92 + + Alloy Charges + + personal credit + Bullion + as a miscellaneous receipt.

+ + 7th instant + Certificate of Deposit No. 417 for $33.80 + Alloy Charge for Carson Mint bullion + personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

April 13, 1897.

Assayer in Charge, U.S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Have chlorination bar melted, thoroughly stirred and take dip samples for assay.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 13, 1897.

Eugene E. Culbreth, Esq.,
Statesville, N. C.

Sir:

Your letter of the 12th instant together with four pieces said to be silver has been received. On my letter of the 10th instant you were informed that the Government purchased only mutilated silver coin and silver contained in gold deposits.

These pieces not being mutilated coin nor silver contained in gold, the Government cannot purchase it, and the same has been therefore returned you per registered mail today.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 13, 1897.

John H. Gregory, Esq.,
Central National Bank,
Rochester, New York.

Sir:

In reply to your letter, you are respectfully informed that there were coined during the calendar year 1893, 1,455,792 silver dollars.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 13, 1897.

L. Stalnaker, Esq.,
Flaval, Clatsop Co., Oregon.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 4th instant, you are respectfully informed that assays of ores are not made by this Bureau, but you can have them made at the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, North Carolina, at a charge of three dollars for each assay.

The specimens forwarded by you are returned you by today's mail.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 14, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the Treasury of the United States in the name

of John Daggett, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at San Francisco, the sum of two hundred and forty-five thousand, nine hundred and fifty-one dollars and twenty-four cents ($245,951.24) on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of said Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 14, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery and Coinage and Storage of Sil. Bul. accounts, of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, Pa. for the month ending March 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent April 9, 1897.
" recd " 10, 1897.
Similar letter except as noted to same address:
+ + Salary, Wages, Contingent + Refinery
Expense + Superintendent + Mint at Carson Nev.
+ Month + March 31, 1897 + + +
Account sent April 5, 1897.
" recd " 10, 1897.

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April 14, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be deposited in the Treasury in your name, the sum of $245,951.24, on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of your Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 14, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent Refinery & Coinage & Storage of Silver Bullion accounts for the month ending March 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

+ + + Salary, Wages,
Contingent & Refinery + + + +

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April 14, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Eagles	,	Del. 73	, 20.00
2 Quar. Dollars	,	" 51	, .50
Total	,	,	$ 20.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 14, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You will please cause to be prepared and forwarded to the Mint of the United States at San Francisco, the following coinage dies for 1897.

10 Obverse and 8 reverse standard dollar dies.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 14, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You will cause to be prepared and forwarded to the Mint of the U. S. at New Orleans, five pairs standard silver

dollar dies for 1897.

Enclosed herewith I send you copy of a letter of the Acting Superintendent in reference to the last dies sent to that Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 14, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The Assayer of the Bureau forwarded you by express yesterday, a bar of silver weighing 134.86 ounces of which 21 standard ounces are to be paid for at subsidiary coinage rates, the remainder at standard silver dollar rates.

He also enclosed 107.65 ounces of mutilated gold coin and 2.05 ounces of cornets of the total value of $2,045.15. This is to be paid for as mutilated coin.

I will thank you to make returns in currency at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 14, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department

for examination and settlement a bill of the Stationery division, Treasury Department, for Stationery shipped you in the Month of February 1897, amounting to $52.07, payable from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint fiscal year 1897.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

+ + + Stationery division,
Treasury Department + Stationery +
Month of Febuary 1897 + $19.37 +
+ Contingent expenses + fiscal year 1897.

April 14, 1897.

Telegram Confirmed

Assayer in Charge,
U. S. Assay Office,
Denver, Colorado.

Remelt deposit; take sample for assay same as instructed yesterday.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 14, 1897.

H. R. Rowe, Esq.,
No. 516 Hilker Street,
Youngstown, Ohio.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 13th instant, you are respectfully informed

that the Government pays no premiums on any coins.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 15, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in the name of Overton Cade, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at New Orleans, the sum of Two hundred and one thousand, five hundred and twenty-two dollars and forty-four cents ($201,522.44) on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th, 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of said Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 15, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver be increased in the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.--) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution

with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 15, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Ninety-six Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-seven $\frac{62}{100}$ Dollars ($96,887.62) in Gold Coin, and Three Hundred and Twenty-five $\frac{36}{100}$ Dollars ($325.36) in Silver Coin, making a total of Ninety-seven Thousand Two Hundred and Twelve $\frac{98}{100}$ Dollars ($97,212.98), being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 51, dated April 12, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 15, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent,

Refinery & Coinage of Lil. Bul. accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at New Orleans for the month ending March 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent April 5, 1897,
" recd " 7, 1897.
Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-
+ + + Salary, Wages,
+ Contingent expense + Assayer in charge
+ U. S. Mint at Denver, Colo. + Months
+ March 31, 1897 + + +
Accounts sent April 7, 1897,
" recd " 9, 1897.

April 15, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be deposited in the Treasury in your name the sum of $201,522.44, on account of the profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of said Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 15, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 15, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 51, dated April 12, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 51 dated April 7, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $97,410.85; charges $197.87, and net value $97,212.98. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 15, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent Refinery & Coinage of Lil. Bul. accounts for the months ending March 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

+	+	+	Salary, Wages,
+ Contingent expense	+		month +
March 31, 1897	+	+	

April 15, 1897.

Assayer in Charge,
U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Telegram Confirmed.

Repeat operations and forward sample of granulations to this Bureau; report original weight of bar and result of each melt and assay in detail.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 15, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:.

2 Eagles	,	Del. 74	, 20.00
Total	,		$20.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Eagles	,	Del. 21	, 20.00
Total	,		$20.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 151	, 2.00
Total	,		$2.00

April 15, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 13th instant, in reference to the transfer of silver dollars

from the vaults of your Mint to the vaults in the Post Office building, you are respectfully informed that the Custodian of the Post Office building has been instructed by the Secretary of the Treasury to permit you to use the lift in the building, for hoisting the silver dollars for storage.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 15, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 8th instant, Certificate of Deposit No. 422 for $4.00 being on account of Special Assays, Quarter ended March 31, 1897, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to his office.

No personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:

+ + + 8th instant, Certificate of Deposit No. 423 for $7.95 + D. M. R. grains March Quarter 1897 + personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

over.

+ + 8th instant, Certificate of Deposit No. 424 for $825.83 + Parting & Refining Charges, March Quarter + personal credit + + Bullion + Appropriation for Parting & Refining Bullion.

+ + 8th instant, Certificate of Deposit No. 425 for $148.86 + Sale of By-Products March Quarter 1897 + personal credit + Bullion + + as a miscellaneous receipt.

April 15, 1897.

Miss Delia V. Johnson,
Prairie Creek, Vigo Co., Indiana.

Miss:-

In reply to your letter you are respectfully informed that the Mints cannot receive either gold or silver in the form of ore, but the bullion must be separated from the ore before it can be received at the Mints.

I infer from your letter that you have simply specimens of ore of gold and silver.

The Government does not pay premiums on any coins whatever, and in order to ascertain the premium, if any, on a one-cent piece coined in 1852, you would have to make application to some coin dealer or collector.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 15, 1897.

Manley Lindeloff, Esq.,
Woodhull, Illinois.

Sir:

Your letter of the 12th instant enclosing a postal order for five cents received, and you will find the same returned herewith.

I also forward you by today's mail a copy of Department Circular No. 123, and would respectfully refer you to pages 15-43 and 51, inclusive, which will give you the information desired.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 15, 1897.

Hon. J. H. Walker,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

Your letter to the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics was referred to this Bureau, and in reply I have the honor to enclose herewith weekly statements of the Bank of England from July first 1890 to July first 1891.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 16, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United

States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of One Hundred and Ten Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-three $\frac{22}{100}$ ($110,753.22) in Gold Coin, and Three Hundred and Eighty-five $\frac{22}{100}$ Dollars ($385.22) in Silver Coin, making a total of One Hundred and Eleven Thousand One Hundred and Thirty-eight $\frac{44}{100}$ Dollars ($111,138.44) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 52 dated April 13, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 16, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Sil. Bul. accounts, of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at San Francisco for the month ending March 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent April 7, 1897.
" recd " 15, 1897.

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April 16, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 52, dated April 13, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 52 dated April 9, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $111,310.91; charges $172.47, and net value $111,138.44. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 16, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Lil. Bul. accounts for the months ending March 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 16, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

April 16, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, a bill of the Revenue Cutter Service, Treasury

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Department for flags furnished for the use of your Mint, amounting to $11.70, payable from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint fiscal year 1897.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:-

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

+ + + a bill of the Revenue Cutter Service, Treasury Department + flags + $15.00 + + +

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

+ + + a bill of the Revenue Cutter Service, Treasury Department + flags + $13.90 + + +

April 16, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith for your information a blank that it is intended to use in striking the medals at the Tennessee Exposition which is the same size as that used at Atlanta.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 16, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

Acknowledging your letter enclosing copy of letter from C. A. Jones, District Attorney of Nevada and your reply thereto, I have to state that I have furnished the Superintendent of the Mint at Carson, with copies of these letters and directed him to make an examination and report the results to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 16, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of a letter addressed by C. A. Jones, U. S. Attorney to Andrew Mason, Superintendent U. S. Assay Office at New York, copy of reply of Mr. Mason, and also copy of a letter addressed to this Bureau by Mr. Mason.

I will thank you to cause the examination suggested by Mr. Mason to be made and report the results to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 16, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find certificate which was enclosed with two special assay coins supposed to be from delivery 151 of April 14, 1897. As two pieces had previously been received from delivery 151 of April 12, 1897, it seems that this must be an error, please correct, and return the certificate.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 16, 1897.

Assayer United States Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Telegram Confirmed. Yes report bar.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

April 16, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

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April 16, 1897.

G. W. Lance, Esq.,
Shady, Polk Co., Arkansas.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 12th instant, you are respectfully informed that assays of ores of gold and silver are made at the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, North Carolina, at a charge of three dollars for each assay. It is probable however that if you were to send a specimen of the ore you have to this Bureau, we could tell you whether it would be worth going to the expense of having an assay made or not.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 16, 1897.

James O'Donnell, Esq.,
Nos 123 and 125 S. Mechanic Street,
Jackson, Michigan.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find statement of the silver coinage from November 1st 1896 to April 1st 1897, silver dollars and subsidiary silver being stated separately.

I also enclose statement of the Treasury issued April 1st which will give you the amount of money, including standard silver dollars and subsidiary coin, coined to date, as well as the amount outstanding. Also you will find herewith statement showing condition of the Treasury

at this date.

Trusting that the above will be satisfactory, I am,

Respectfully yours,

R. E. Preston,

Director of the Mint.

April 16, 1897.

Riverside Mill Co.,

Reno, Nevada.

Sirs:

As your name does not appear upon the official list furnished this Bureau by the Committee on Awards of the Worlds Columbian Exposition, as entitled to a medal of award, I have forwarded your letter to the Secretary of the Treasury for such action as he may deem proper.

Respectfully yours,

R. E. Preston,

Director of the Mint.

April 17, 1897.

Auditor for the

Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages & Contingent expense accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office in Helena, Montana, for the Month ending March 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,

R. E. Preston, Director.

Accounts forwarded April 1, 1897.

" received " 7, 1897.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:

+ + + Bullion accounts +
Assayer + U. S. Mints + Denver, Colo.
+ Quarter + March 31, 1897 + + +
Accounts forwarded April 7, 1897.
" received " 10, 1897.

+ + + Bullion accounts +
Assayer + Assay Office at Boise, Idaho +
Quarter + March 31, 1897 + + +
Accounts forwarded April 9, 1897.
" received " 16, 1897.

April 17, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mont.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, & Contingent Expense accounts, for the month ending March 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:-
W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

+ + + Bullion accounts
+ Quarter + March 31, 1897
with my approval.

over

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F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Bullion accounts
Quarter ending March 31, 1897

April 17, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to the conversation had with you to-day, for the reasons stated, you are authorized to purchase from 15,000 to 25,000 pounds of five cent nickel blanks from the Scovill Manufacturing Company at present contract rates.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 17, 1897.

Eugene E. Culbreth, Esq.,
Statesville, N. C.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 16th instant, you are respectfully informed that the only way you could sell your silver bullion would be to take it to a local bank and have them forward it to their correspondents in New York.

The specimen you enclose is simply brass and is returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 19, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Carson to that of the United States Mint at San Francisco, of the sum of Thirty-five Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty-nine 85/100 Dollars ($35,659.85) in Gold Coin, being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Superintendent of the United States Mint at Carson, as shown by Memorandum No. 6088-6089, dated April 8, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 19, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, and Contingent expense accounts, of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Boise, Idaho, for the month ending March 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent April 5, 1897.
" recd " 10, 1897.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:- over.

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+ + + Salary, Wages and
Contingent expense + Assayer in charge
+ Assay Office at St. Louis, Mo. +
month + March 31, 1897 + +
Accounts sent April 3, 1897.
" recd " 7, 1897.

April 19, 1897.

E. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 6088-6089 dated April 8, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at San Francisco, Shipment No. 13, dated April 6, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $35,663.59; charges $3.74, and net value $35,659.85. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at San Francisco.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 19, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement your Salary, Wages & Contingent expense accounts for the month

ending March 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:-

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

April 19, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

4 S. S. Dollars	Dels. 63+64	4.00
Total		$4.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 152	2.00
Total		$2.00

April 19, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of a letter from

Mr. Calvo, Minister of Costa Rica, inquiring as to the cost of 600,000 in ten Colones coins, at your Institution, and I have to request that you will furnish me the information called for by return mail if practicable.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 19, 1897.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897. In future, please forward a letter of transmittal with your Bullion Accounts.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter, to:

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

April 19, 1897.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

Assay Report on Gold Deposit #19 is returned herewith for correction. The calculations for this deposit on your Abstract sheet, are

made upon 19.52 ounces, and this report should not have been forwarded this Bureau in such form.

In this connection I will say that, no other institution in the Mint service has ever forwarded its Abstract sheets to the Bureau in such an incomplete condition as yours of the March Quarter and, if it were not that the Bureau is in haste to have the Bullion Accounts for the said Quarter examined and forwarded to the Auditor for settlement, your Accounts would be returned for proper adjustment.

I wish to impress upon you the fact that it is not the business of this Bureau to make out your Abstract sheets, but only to examine and pass upon their correctness.

In future please see that all Accounts rendered this Bureau are prepared in proper shape for such examination and settlement.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 19, 1897.

John F. Connell, Esq.,
No. 21 Acton Street,
Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 29th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that the Government does not keep any records of coins according to date, and consequently has no knowledge of the

coin referred to.

The Government pays no premium on coins and receives them at their face value only.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 19, 1897.

E. W. Kinzel, Esq.,
Vice Pres't Citizen's State Bank,
Wisner, Nebraska.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 16th instant, you are respectfully informed that you can send by registered mail or express any placer gold you may have to the United States Mint at Denver, or the Assay Office at St. Louis, Missouri. If sent to the former a draft on the Assistant Treasurer at Chicago will be sent you in payment and if sent to the latter a draft on the Assistant Treasurer at St. Louis.

If you wish to receive coin in return it would be necessary for you to send the gold you have to the Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 20, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the

United States Assay Office at Boise, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Thirty-one Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixteen 42/100 Dollars ($31,816.42) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Twenty 91/100 Dollars ($220.91) in Silver Coin, making a total of Thirty-two Thousand and Thirty-seven 33/100 Dollars ($32,037.33) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Boise, as shown by Memorandum No. 36 dated April 10, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 20, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Medal Fund account of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent April 19, 1897.
" recd " 20, 1897.
Similar letter except as noted, to same address:
+ + + Bullion. + Assayer
+ Assay Office at St. Louis + Quarter + March 31, 1897
+ + Accounts sent, (no letter)
" recd April 19, 1897.

April 20, 1897.

T. J. Hobbs, Esq.,
Disbursing Clerk,
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I have today requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be advanced you the sum of $250. from the appropriation for Contingent expenses Office Director of the Mint 1897, (Laboratory) for the payment of bills this day referred to you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

April 21, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 36, dated April 5, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 36 dated April 10, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $32,120.89; charges $83.56, and net value $32,037.33. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 20, 1897.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Bullion accounts for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, with my approval, except error in Parting Charge on Deposits #4 and #5 of 20¢ and 12¢ respectively, total 32¢, which I recommend be disallowed.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

April 20, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Eagles	, Del. 76	,	20.00
2 Dimes	, " 52	,	.20
Total	,	,	$ 20.20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 20, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:- I send you this day by United States

Express Company, a bag containing a number of bars of gold of a total weight of 38.17 ounces.

Please return, by express, the value in gold coin, at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 20, 1897.

W. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 16th instant, Certificate of Deposit No. 1002 for $71.00 being on account of Charges for Melting, Assaying and Stamping, March Dr., has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to his office.

Personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts, and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:

+ + + 16th instant,
Certificate of Deposit No. 1009 for $69.00 +
Special Assays, March Quarter +
+ No personal credit + Bullion
+ + as a miscellaneous receipt.

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April 20, 1897.

T. J. E. Yocum, Esq.,
Mifflintown, Pa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 17th instant, you are respectfully informed that if a silver dollar were so mutilated that the figures and letters on it were obliterated by acids or other means, it would be treated simply as bullion. If its form had not been destroyed however, the character of the coin could in a measure be determined by the size and assay of the same.

If you have a piece of silver of this character, by forwarding it to this Bureau, you will receive full information.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 21, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Twenty-five Thousand and Nineteen $\frac{54}{100}$ Dollars ($25.019.54) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred and Eighty-one $\frac{30}{100}$ Dollars ($181.30) making a total of Twenty-five Thousand Two Hundred $\frac{84}{100}$ Dollars ($25,200.84) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded

by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 36, dated April 17, 1897 of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 21, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at New York to that of the Mint at Philadelphia of fifty-eight thousand two hundred and thirteen dollars and fifty-nine cents ($58,213.59) payable in 97,022.65 ounces of standard silver bullion.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 21, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at New Orleans, La. for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director.

Accounts forwarded April 17, 1897.
" received April 19, 1897.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address: over.

+ + + Statistical Expense account + Assayer + U. S. Mint at Denver, Colo. + Period + June 30, 1897 + +
Accounts forwarded April 7, 1897.
" received " 9, 1897.

April 21, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mont.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 36, dated April 17, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 36 dated April 10, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $25,267.29; charges $66.45, and net value $25,200.84. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 21, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have this day requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the U. S. Assay Office at New York to that of the Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of $58,213.59 payable in 97,022.65 ounces

of standard silver bullion.

When this silver is received you will take it up and treat it as a purchase for the subsidiary silver coinage.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 21, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of your Office to the Mint of the U. S. at Philadelphia, of the sum of $58,213.59 payable in 97,022.65 ounces of standard silver bullion.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 21, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Bullion accounts for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter, except as noted, to: over.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Statistical Expense
Period June 30, 1897

April 21, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Eagles	,	Del. 77	, 20.00
2 Quar. Dols.	,	" 53	, .50
Total	,		, $20.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 65	, 2.00
Total	,		, $2.00.

April 21, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent

deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

April 21, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the - Certificate of Deposit No. 9323 for $20,000, being on account of Minor Coinage Profits, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to his office.

Personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts and the amount to be covered into the Treasury as Minor Coinage Profits.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 21, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir: I have to acknowledge the receipt

of your Bullion Accounts with Abstracts and Vouchers for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

March 21, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

After mature reflection and canvassing the matter in all its various aspects, I have decided, in order to ascertain the gold and silver contents of lead ores, base bullion and copper matte, imported into the United States to have samples of such importations assayed in the laboratory of this Bureau.

I find the appropriations for the support of your office will not admit of the employment of any additional help for this purpose. You will therefore forward the samples you now have on hand to this Bureau by express as early as practicable.

I have requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause the samples hereafter forwarded regularly to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 21, 1897.

Senor Don Joaquin Bernardo Calvo,
Minister Resident,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith find copy of a letter received this A.M. from the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, which will give you the information requested in your letter of the 17th instant.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 21, 1897.

Weston Paper & M'fg Co.,
Dayton, Ohio.

Gentlemen:

In reply to your letter of the 19th instant, in reference to the erroneous name placed upon the medal of award for your firm, I have to say that if you will return the medal to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, measures will be taken to furnish you with a corrected medal.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 22, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United

States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of One Hundred Thousand Four Hundred and Thirty $\frac{28}{100}$ Dollars ($100,430.28) in Gold Coin, and Five Hundred and Ninety-two $\frac{62}{100}$ Dollars ($592.62) in Silver Coin, making a total of One Hundred and One Thousand and Twenty-two $\frac{90}{100}$ Dollars ($101,022.90) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 53 dated April 19, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 22, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, and Contingent Expense accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, N. C. for the month ending March 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts forwarded April 5, 1897.
" received " 8, 1897.

April 22, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 53, dated April 19, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 53, dated April 13, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $101,231.24; charges $208.34, and net value $101,022.90. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 22, 1897.

W. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts, for the month ending March 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 22, 1897.

Herman Kertz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Eagles	,	Del 78	, 20.00
2 Quar. Dollars	,	" 54	, .50
Total	,		$20.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Eagles	,	Del. 22	, 20.00
Total	,		$20.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 153	, 2.00
Total	,		$2.00

April 22, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find Treasury draft

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#24891 for one thousand three hundred and ninety-three dollars, twenty cents ($1,393.20) on the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Philadelphia, in your favor, the same being in payment of special assay coins forwarded this Bureau during the quarter ended March 31, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

+ + Treasury draft No. 6684 for seven hundred and forty-eight dollars, eighty cents ($748.80) + Assistant Treasurer + San Francisco + Special assay coins + +

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

+ + Treasury draft No. 5058 + fifty-six dollars ninety cents ($56.90) + + New Orleans + Special assay coins + +

April 22, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of a letter received this day from Mr. Calvo, Representative of the Costa Rican Government, and you are authorized to proceed to coin the 60,000

gold pieces of ten colones without delay.

I am perfectly satisfied that the Costa Rican Government has this money on hand and ready to pay for the coins at any time.

You can manufacture the coins from any gold bullion you have on hand, and the amount will be reimbursed you, weight for weight in gold coin by the Costa Rican Government before the coins are shipped from the Mint.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 22, 1897.

Seymour Coman, Esq.,
No. 164 Dearborn Street,
Chicago, Ills.

Sir:

I forward you by today's mail copies of the report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year ended June 30th, 1896, and for the World's stock of gold, silver and uncovered paper money, would respectfully refer you to pages 46-7 of the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 22, 1897.

William Marshall, Esq.,
Fremont, Nebraska.

Sir:

In answer to your inquiry of the 14th instant, relative to the ratio of gold to

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silver in Germany 1871-73, & would state the legal ratio was 15½ to 1, while the commercial ratio was: 1871- 15.57; 1872- 15.63; 1873- 15.92.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 22, 1897.

Eustache Turner, Esq.,
Cottonport, Louisiana.

Sir:

Your letter of the 19th instant received.

The ten cent piece enclosed by you is genuine and is returned herewith, per registered mail.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 23, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that the Bullion Fund of the U. S. Assay Office at New York be increased five million dollars ($5,000,000.) by a transfer of that amount in gold coin and that the same be placed to the credit of the Superintendent of said Institution with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 23, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that owing to the large amount of work, due to the number of deposits that the Assayer of the United States Assay Office at New York is required to handle, it has been found impracticable to continue to assay samples of base lead and copper bullion and ores at that institution with a view of determining the gold and silver contents of the assays.

I have therefore to respectfully request that the Collectors of Customs at the Port of New York, Newark and Perth Amboy, be instructed in future to forward the samples heretofore delivered to the Assay Office at New York to this Bureau, where assays of the same will be made in the Laboratory, and the gold and silver contents determined.

In this connection, I would respectfully suggest the propriety of determining also the lead, copper and zinc contents of these importations in the Laboratory of this Bureau, as a check upon the assays made in New York. If you should think favorably of this, instructions should be given that the results of assays made at the Custom Houses should be reported to you for the purpose of comparison with the assays made by this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 23, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Carson, Nev., for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts forwarded April 15, 1897.
" received " 21, 1897.

April 23, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:-

I have this day requested that the Bullion Fund of your Institution be increased five million dollars, by a transfer of that amount in Gold Coin, and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer at New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 23, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper

accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Bullion accounts for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

April 23, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins reserved at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2	Quar Dollars	Del. 55	.50
		Total	$ .50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2	Double Eagles	Del. 23	40.00
		Total	$ 40.00

April 23, 1897.

Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith blanks for the Civil Service Commission requesting nominations

for Civil Service Examiners at your Mint.

The Circular letter of the Commission will give you full information as to the manner in which the blanks should be filled out and which should be returned to this Bureau.

Please give this matter your early attention.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

Superintendent U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Assayer in Charge, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

April 23, 1897.

W. H. Meadow, Esq.,
Cashier, Waverly Banking & Trust Co.,
Waverly, Tennessee.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 20th instant, in reference to the redemption of worn subsidiary silver coin, I enclose herewith Department Circular No. 162 and would call your attention to Art. 8 page 3, of the same,

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which will give you the information desired.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 23, 1897.

E. Rubenstein, Esq.,
Augusta, Ga.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 21st instant, you are respectfully informed that gold is received and settled for at the Mint on the determination of its value, after melt and assay at the rate of $20.67+ per ounce fine or pure.

The Mint can legally refuse any deposit of gold of less value than one hundred dollars.

Silver is not received for coinage on individual account nor is it now being purchased by the Government. Deposits of silver bullion are received for return to the depositor in fine bars.

Any old gold you have you can send to the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, North Carolina, and the returns for the same would be made by draft on the Assistant Treasurer at New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 24, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Ninety-six Thousand Five Hundred and Seventy-two $\frac{26}{100}$ Dollars ($96,572.26) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred and Seventy-nine $\frac{82}{100}$ Dollar ($179.82) in Silver Coin, making a total of Ninety-six Thousand Seven Hundred and and Fifty-two $\frac{08}{100}$ Dollars ($96,752.08) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 54, dated April 21, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 24, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 54, dated April 21, 1897, of Gold Bullion heretofore forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 54 dated April 17, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $96,843.32; charges $91.24, and net value $96,752.08. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested

from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 24, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 154	2.00
	Total	2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 24, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week during the Month of April 1897 and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, to the following: over.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans La.

April 24, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I enclose herewith blanks of the Civil Service Commission requesting nominations for Civil Service Examiners at your Mint.

The Circular letter of the Commission will give you full information as to the manner in which the blanks should be filled out, and which should be returned to this Bureau.

Please give this matter your earliest attention.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:

Assayer in Charge, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

April 24, 1897.

G. W. Cook, Esq.,
Porter, Clay Co., West Va.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 20th instant, you are respectfully informed that assays of ores are not made in this Bureau.

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You can have assays made of gold or silver at the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte, North Carolina, at a charge of three dollars for each assay. It is probable, however, that if you were to forward a specimen of the ore referred to, to this Bureau it could be readily ascertained upon examination, whether it would be worth your while to go to the expense of having an assay made.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 26, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	Del. 81 ,	10.00
Total ,		$10.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Dimes ,	Del. 67 ,	.20
Total ,		$ .20

April 26, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 23rd instant, inclosing a copy of the letter received by you from the Mossberg & Granville Mfg. Co. offering to furnish your Mint with one large breaking down mill with rolls 15" in diameter and 10" face, fitted with Mossberg patent roller bearings and equipped with all necessary adjustments, and also a finishing mill with steel rolls 5"x5", equipped with roller bearings and special adjustments for finishing, for the sum of thirty three hundred and fifty dollars net ($3,350.), you are authorized to accept the offer of the Mossberg & Granville Mfg. Co., stipulating in the contract that no payment is to be made until the mills have been tested by a trial of at least thirty days, and if not satisfactory, the Mossberg & Granville Mfg. Co., are to remove the same, and replace the old machinery without any charge whatever to the Government.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 26, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Enclosed please find bill in duplicate

for transportation of a shipment of copper from the railroad station to your mint made under a contract with the Quarter-master Generals Department. The rate charged seems to be reasonable and I will thank you to investigate the matter and pay the bill if found to be correct. You will observe that the bill seems in every respect similar to the one returned to you by the Auditor for the Treasury for payment about the 17th or 18th of February last and the services were rendered by the same person.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

April 26, 1897.

Assayer in Charge, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 13th instant, enclosing a letter from the Denver National Bank in reference to the reporting of fineness of gold bars deposited by the Omaha & Grant Smelting Co., you are respectfully informed that a new edition of the Rules and Regulations is now in course of preparation in which the degree of fineness at which fine bars should be reported will be duly considered.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 26, 1897.

W. J. Puchett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, on account of the Union Pacific (Main Line & Kansas City Division) Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of December 1896, from Omaha, Neb. to Denver, Colo. of Mint Stationery supplies amounting to .85¢. consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent expenses of your mint fiscal year 1897.

Duplicate bill of lading herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

+ + + an account + Union Pacific + Oregon Short Line + Utah Northern + + Month of December 1896 from Granger Wyo. to Boise, Idaho + + $10.85 + 1897.

Duplicate bills of lading herewith.

April 26, 1897.

Telegram conferred.

Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Assistant Treasurer telegraphs requesting discontinuance of sale of bars for export until after he shall have conferred with the Secretary of the Treasury. Confer with him.

You are also authorized to increase the premium to one-eighth.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 26, 1897.

Assistant Treasurer U. S.,
New York, N. Y.

Telegram Confirmed.

Have instructed Mason to confer with you in regard to discontinuance of sale of bars for export.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 26, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.,
Waterbury, Conn.

Gentlemen:

I send you per registered mail today a box containing medal of award of the World's Columbian Exposition with the name incorrectly placed upon the same. The name should be,

L. P. Hansen instead of L. P. Harrison.

I will thank you to cause a new medal to be struck with the name correctly placed upon the same, and forwarded to this Bureau as early as practicable.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint

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April 26, 1897.

A. C. Keyser, Esq.,
Des Plaines, Cook Co. Ills.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 20th instant, you are respectfully informed that the eagle penny dated 1858, minted from copper, which you have in your possession is what is known as an experimental piece, and not of regular or authorized issue. It was probably struck for the purpose of trying the die.

I am unable to inform you as to its numismatic value.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 27, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Thirty-one Thousand Five Hundred and Forty-eight $\frac{11}{100}$ Dollars ($31,548.11) in Gold Coin, and Three Hundred and Seventy-seven $\frac{63}{100}$ Dollars ($377.63) in Silver Coin, making a total of Thirty-one Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty-five $\frac{74}{100}$ Dollars ($31,925.74) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States

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Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 37, dated April 23, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 27, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver be increased in the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at Chicago.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 27, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 37, dated April 23, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 37 dated April 17, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $32,010.06; charges $84.32, and net value $31,925.74. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested

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from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 27, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 27, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	Del. 82	10.00
Total		$10.00.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to the following:- over.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Half Eagles	Del. 24	10.00
	Total	$10.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 155	2.00
	Total	$2.00

April 27, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U.S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of a letter received from the El Paso Reduction Co., of Gillette, Colorado, calling attention to the loss in weight on deposits Nos. 2307-2480, made on March 13th and April 2nd, respectively, and I will thank you to submit a report as to how the loss in weight on these deposits occurred.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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April 27, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I enclose herewith a letter of the President removing you from the position of Assayer of the Assay Office at Boise, Idaho, to take effect upon the appointment and qualification of your successor.

I presume Mr. Cunningham will call upon you when he has received the notification of the approval of his bond and his commission has been delivered to him. The fact of his having the commission will be evidence of his being entitled to the office.

I see no reason why you cannot arrange between you the time of his entry upon duty so as to make it agreeable to both.

The balances belonging to the Bullion Fund you will deposit to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States in his general account, and forward certificates of deposit to the Secretary of the Treasury, taking credit for the same in your bullion accounts as a transfer of funds.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 27, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of

your Bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter to:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

April 27, 1897.

R. W. Hamilton, Esq.,
No. 244 East 15th Street,
Stuyvesant Square,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 19th instant, you are respectfully informed that the monetary stock of gold and silver in the World at the end of 1850 was estimated to have been $797,500,000, and of silver $2,224,000,000.

I regret that I am not able to give you an estimate of the amount that was held by each country at that date.

The estimate given above is that of Dr. Adolph Soetbeer.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 27, 1897.

E. P. Reichhelm & Co.,

Gentlemen:

Enclosed herewith please find

draft of the Disbursing Clerk of the Treasury in payment of your bill for blower repairs to furnace &c. of the Laboratory connected with this Bureau, amounting to $278.75.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

April 28, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Carson be increased in the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in Gold Coin and that the same be placed to the credit of the Superintendent of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:

\+ + + Assay Office at Charlotte + Twenty-five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.-) + + lawful money + + Assayer in charge + said institution as follows, viz:

$20,000.- with Asst Treasurer at New York
5,000.- with Commercial Natl Bank at Charlotte.

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April 28, 1897.

Worthington C. Ford, Esq.,
Chief, Bureau of Statistics.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 27th instant, you are respectfully informed that I have not as yet completed the estimates of the World's production of gold and silver for 1896, all the data necessary upon which to base the same not having been received.

As soon as the estimate is made I will cheerfully give you the results.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 28, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000.-) in Gold Coin, and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director, Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

\+ + Twenty-five Thousand + ($25,000.-)
+ $20,000.- + your credit with Asst Treas. U.S. at New York
+ $5,000.- + Commercial Natl Bank at Charlotte.

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April 28, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	,	Del. 83	, 10.00
2 Dimes	,	" 56	, .20
Total	,		$10.20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 28, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith find the account of the "Philadelphia Enquirer" for advertising proposals for supplies required by your Mint for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1896, amounting as approved by the Depart-ment to $152., and which is payable from your appropriation for Contingent Expenses for the current fiscal year.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 28, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

April 28, 1897.

Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Telegram Confirmed

Section 3551, Revised Statutes limits the manufacture of medals to the Mint at Philadelphia.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 28, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:-

On reply to your letter of the 22nd instant, in reference to striking a medal for the citizens

of British birth to be sold for the benefit of the British Hospital in your city, I wired you today that Section 3551 of the Revised Statutes limits the manufacture of medals to the Mint at Philadelphia, which I now confirm.

If it were permissable to strike these medals at your Mint I do not believe it would be advisable to strike them of the same size and certainly not of the same fineness as the half-dollar; the silver medals struck at the Mint at Philadelphia are about 990 fine.

If this work could be legally done at your institution I should have no objection to the medals being struck.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 28, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Sir:

I enclose herewith for your information copy of the report of the Assayer of this Bureau upon the samples from gold deposit No. 2560 forwarded by you to this Bureau, and your attention is invited to the conclusions reached by him.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 28, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have this day directed payment to the Postal Telegraph Co. for telegraph service of your Mint during the fiscal year 1897, amounting to $2.63, payable from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint for the current fiscal year.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 28, 1897.

A. H. Richards, Esq.,
Sheldon Block,
El Paso, Texas.

Sir:

Your letter of the 23rd instant, together with gold watch case has been received, and the same has been forwarded to the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, with instructions to remit you the proceeds.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 28, 1897.

Lincoln T. Seagrave, Esq.,
Providence, Rhode Island.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 26th instant,

you are respectfully informed that when one or three gold dollar pieces are received in the Treasury, they are not paid out again, but are transferred to the Mints, melted and recoined.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 28, 1897.

W. R. Towne, Esq.,
No 708 First Avenue,
Seattle, Washington.

Sir:

Your letter of the 22nd instant, has been referred to the Civil Service Commission, with the request that blank applications be forwarded to you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 29, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Fourteen Thousand One Hundred and Fifty $\frac{35}{100}$ Dollars ($14,150.35) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred and Eight $\frac{30}{100}$ Dollars ($108.30) in Silver Coin, making a total of Fourteen Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty-eight $\frac{65}{100}$ Dollars ($14,258.65)

being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Boise, as shown by Memorandum No. 37, dated April 24, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 29, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 37, dated April 24, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 37, dated April 17, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau and the gross value found to be $14,304.43; charges $45.78, and net value $14,258.65. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 29, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint

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during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	,	Del. 84	, 10.00
2 Quar Dollars	,	" 57	, .50
		Total ,	$10.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

4 S. S. Dollars	,	Dels 68 & 69	, 4.00
		Total ,	$4.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 156	, 2.00
		Total ,	$2.00

April 29, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

over.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

April 29, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Memorandum of bullion shipment No. 56 from Denver has been received but the records of the Bureau do not show the receipt of Memorandum of the previous shipment which I would thank you to please forward.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 29, 1897.

Superintendent Mint U.S.
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

As requested in your telegram of current

date you are authorized to purchase 1285 ounces of standard silver bullion to restore the silver bullion of 1890, the amount lost on sale of silver contained in sweeps.

This should be charged against the appropriation for Contingent Expenses for the current fiscal year.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 29, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers for the Quarter ended March 31st, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

April 29, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, an account of the Omaha Bridge Co., of the Union Pacific Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of December 1896, from Council Bluffs

to Omaha Neb., bullion balances for Boise amounting to 184, consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Office fiscal year 1897.

Duplicate B/L herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

April 29, 1897.

Senor Don Joaquin Bernardo Calvo,
Minister Resident, Washington, D.C.

My dear Sir:

It is with pleasure that I communicate to you that the coining of the Ten Colone gold pieces for the Government of Nicaragua, will be commenced at the Mint at Philadelphia today.

If you should wish to examine the coins before their shipment will you kindly advise me on what date you will visit the Mint, that I may inform the Superintendent.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 29, 1897.

Hon. William E. Chandler,
United States Senate.

Sir:

I forward you herewith copy of Department Circular No. 123, on pages 26-27 of which you will find a table showing the population and the approximate

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stock of gold and silver, and uncovered paper money in each country.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 29, 1897.

R. W. Hamilton, Esq.,
No. 244 East 15th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 28th instant calling attention to an error in the estimated stock of gold and silver in the World at the end of 1850, as given in my letter of the 27th instant, received, and in reply you are respectfully informed that the word "gold" should have appeared before the figures $797,500,000.

Regretting the omission, I am,

Yours respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 29, 1897.

Messrs. Einer & Amend,
Nos. 205-211 Third Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

I will thank you to send me on receipt hereof by express, the following:

12 ounces of chemically pure antimony.
2 lbs of rolled sulphur.
1 lb of sheet iron C. P. (piano wire usually the purest form.)

over.

All these articles should be chemically pure and are required immediately.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 30, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Ninety-one Thousand Four Hundred and Fifty-eight $\frac{29}{100}$ Dollars ($91,458.29) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred and Thirty-two $\frac{05}{100}$ Dollars ($132.05) making a total of Ninety-one Thousand Five Hundred and Ninety $\frac{34}{100}$ Dollars ($91,590.34) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver as shown by Memorandum No. 55 dated April 24, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:

\+ + + Mint at Denver + Mint at Philadelphia + Eighty-one Thousand Two Hundred and Seventy-seven $\frac{55}{100}$ + ($81,277.55) + Three Hundred and Eleven $\frac{04}{100}$ + ($311.04) + + Eighty-one Thousand Five Hundred and Eighty-eight $\frac{59}{100}$ + ($81,588.59)

over

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+ Bullion + Forwarded by the Assayer + Mint at Denver + Memorandum No. 56 + April 26, 1897 + + said Mint.

+ + + Mint at Denver + Mint at Philadelphia + One Hundred and Five Thousand Six Hundred and Twenty-two 38/100 + ($105,622.38) + Forty 58/100 + ($40.88) + total of One Hundred and Five Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty-three 26/100 + ($105,663.26) + Bullion + Assayer + Mint at Denver + Memorandum No. 57 + April 27, 1897 + +

April 30, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 55 dated April 24, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 55 dated April 20, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $91,754.43; charges $164.09, and net value $91,590.34. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted to:-

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Deposit Memorandum No. 56 + April 26, 1897,

Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 56, April 22, 1897	$81,688.47;	$99.88	$81,588.59.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Deposit Memorandum No. 57 April 27, 1897
Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 57
April 23, 1897,

	$105,870.08;	$206.82	$105,663.26.

April 30, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins reserved at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	Del. 85	10.00
2 Half Dollars	" 58	1.00
Total		$11.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	Del. 25	40.00
2 S. S. Dollars	" 70	2.00
Total		$42.00

April 30, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

April 30, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, a bill of the Stationery division Treasury Department for Stationery shipped you in the month of March, amounting to $5.28

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payable from the appropriation for Contingent expenses U. S. Mint Carson 1897.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.
+ + + Stationery division, Treasury Department, for Stationery + + Month of March + $33.94 + + Contingent Expenses of your office fiscal year 1897.

April 30, 1897.

E. Scott Brown, Esq.,
Scottsville, Allen Co., Kentucky.

Sir:

The specimen enclosed in your letter of the 15th instant, is of no value and is returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 30, 1897.

Baltimore Copper S. & R. Co.,
Keyser Building,
Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen:

I will thank you to inform me the lowest price at which you will deliver five tons of the best ingot copper to the Mint at New Orleans.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 30, 1897.

Hon. William H. Fleming,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

I regret that by an oversight your letter of the 17th instant, was not answered earlier. In reply, I would respectfully state that mutilated United States silver coin is not redeemed by the Treasury but is purchased at the Mints as bullion at the prevailing market price for silver.

Circular covering the purchase of United States mutilated coin, as well as Circular governing the redemption of currency, are enclosed herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 30, 1897.

John E. Grohl, Esq.,
Freistatt, Missouri.

Sir:

In compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 27th instant, I enclose herewith statement showing the coinage of the United States by denominations during the calendar year 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 30, 1897.

E. G. Gardner, Esq.,
No. 1251 10th Street,
Des Moines, Iowa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 24th instant, you are respectfully informed that the head on the standard silver dollar or, in fact on any of our coins, is a representation of Liberty. The little "m" which you observe on the lower edge of the neck of the figure of Liberty on the silver dollar is the initial letter of the designer of the coin, (George Morgan) an Engraver in the Mint, Philadelphia. The wreath is olive, and is intended to represent Peace.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

April 30, 1897.

James H. Potts, Esq.,
Local Editor "Troy Daily Times",
Troy, New York.

Sir:

Your letter of the 13th instant to the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York, asking for an explanation as to why the stars on the coins of the United States have six points while those on the flag have but five points, has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply I enclose herewith copy of a letter from the Engraver of the Mint at Philadelphia, in answer to an inquiry on this subject.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director of Mint.

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April 30, 1897.

B. M. V. Price, Esq.,
Concordia P.O., Cloud Co., Kansas.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 25th instant, you are respectfully informed that in order to ascertain the premium on a silver dollar of 1792, it will be necessary to make application to some coin dealer or numismatist, as the Government pays no premium on any coins.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 1, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

The following coins reserved at your Mint during the Month of April 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S.S. Dollars	Del. 157	2.00
Total		$2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 3, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the Mint of the United States at

New Orleans to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of two thousand five hundred and fifty dollars ($2,550.-) payable as follows:

Treasury Notes, Act of July 14, 1890	$2,000.
Gold Certificates	550.

The Treasury Notes referred to were received in exchange for silver dollars.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 3, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to recommend Mr. A. A. Hassan, clerk of class three for examination in view of his promotion to a clerkship of class four.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 3, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of your Mint to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of $2,550, payable as follows:-

Treasury Notes, Act of July 14, 1890	$2,000.-
Gold Certificates	550.-

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director, Mint.

May 3, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Dimes	Del. 59	,	.20
Total		,	$.20.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

April 1897

4 S. S. Dollars	Dels. 71 & 72	,	4.00
Total		,	$ 4.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

April 1897

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 158	,	2.00
Total		,	$2.00

May 3, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of May 1897,

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has been approved for the sum of $14,200.- payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	3,300.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	2,100.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	800.
Parting & Refining Bullion,	———	8,000.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

\+ + + May 1897 +
\+ $3,100 + + +

Salaries,	1897,	1,000.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	1,500.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	600.

May 3, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith find the account of the "Evening Bulletin" for publishing advertisements for supplies required by your Mint for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1896, amounting as approved by the Department to $118.40, which sum is payable from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint for the current fiscal year.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 3, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the first instant, in regard to the shipment of worn and uncurrent subsidiary silver coin for recoinage, I would state that I have this day arranged with the Treasurer to ship you the amount of such coin they now have on hand in New York at the rate of $50,000.- a day. Inasmuch as the appropriation for the Deficiency Bill has not yet passed, it will be necessary for you to hold the coin on storage.

I have no doubt that the Deficiency Bill will be passed at an early date.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 3, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith find the account of the Press Company, Limited, for publishing advertisements for supplies required by your Mint for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1898, amounting as approved by the Department to $113.60, which sum is payable from your appropriation for Contingent Expenses, for the current fiscal year.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 3, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith a letter received from the representative of the Treasury Department of the Tennessee Centennial Exposition.

I have been informed that you furnished a collection of coins for the Atlanta Exposition, and I will thank you to inform me by wire to what extent you would be willing to comply with the enclosed request. I have no doubt the coins would be perfectly safe in the custody of the Exposition.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 3, 1897.

Andrew Mason Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

Referring to my personal letter of Saturday in regard to certain experiments to be made in the Laboratory of this Bureau, I have now to inform you that it has been decided to make these experiments on Wednesday next, commencing at ten A.M.

In order to give you ample time to be present I telegraphed you today as follows:

"If practicable please arrange so that you can be here Wednesday morning next."

While engaged in this service your

necessary traveling and other expenses will be paid upon your rendering your account to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 3, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 30th ultimo, Certificate of Deposit No. 1747 for $5.00 being on account of Sale of Old Material, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to his office.

No personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:

\+ + + Certificate of Deposit
No. 1748 for $76.00 + Special Assays
\+ + No personal credit + +
Bullion + + as a miscellaneous receipt.

\+ + + Certificate of Deposit
No. 1749 for $972.10 + Sale of By-products
\+ + No personal credit + +
Bullion + as a miscellaneous receipt.

May 3, 1897.

J. W. Cunningham, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I this day transmit you by registered mail your Commission as Assayer in Charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Boise City, Idaho.

So long as the best interest of the service are considered any day which may be agreed upon between yourself and your predecessor, to enter upon the discharge of the duties of the office will be agreeable to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

May 3, 1897.

John W. Cunningham, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have to advise you of the approval of your bond as Assayer in Charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Boise Idaho, which took place on the 1st instant.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

May 3, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

When will the dies for the Tennessee Centennial Exposition be ready? Answer.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Telegrams Confirmed.

May 3, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

If practicable arrange so that you can be here Wednesday morning next.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar telegram to:-

Dr. D. K. Tuttle,
Melter & Refiner, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

May 3, 1897.

Dr. D. K. Tuttle,
Melter & Refiner, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to my personal letter of Saturday in regard to certain experiments to be made in the Laboratory of this Bureau, I have now to inform you that it has been decided to make three experiments on Wednesday next, commencing at ten A. M.

In order to give you ample time to arrange to be present, I telegraphed you today as follows:

"If practicable please arrange so that you

can be here Wednesday morning next."

While engaged in this service, your necessary traveling and other expenses will be paid upon your rendering a voucher to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 3, 1897.

Baltimore Copper, Smelting & Rolling Co.,
Keyser Building, Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen:

Your offer to deliver five (5) tons of the best commercial ingot copper, free of all charges, to the Mint of the United States at New Orleans at $0.11,6, per pound is accepted.

You will please make shipment as early as practicable, forwarding your account receipted in duplicate to this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 3, 1897.

Claude M. Johnson, Esq.,
Director, Bureau of Engraving & Printing,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I transmit today corrected models of the World's Columbian Exposition as follows:

L. P. Hansen.
George Bahr.
Robert B. Pritchard.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director.

May 4, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Twenty-nine Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty-five $\frac{99}{100}$ Dollars ($29,725.99) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Fourteen $\frac{98}{100}$ Dollars, ($214.98) in Silver Coin, making a total of Twenty-nine Thousand Nine Hundred and Forty $\frac{97}{100}$ Dollars ($29,940.97) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 38, dated April 30, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 4, 1897.

To the
Treasurer of the United States.

Sir:

The Mint of the United States at Philadelphia has executed the coinage of 60,000 Ten Colones pieces for the Government of Costa Rica for which there is due to the Mint from that Government $279,291.81, for the bullion contained in such coinage.

The Representative of the Costa Rican Government desires to deposit gold coin to this amount with the Assistant Treasurer

of the United States at New York. I will thank you to instruct the Assistant Treasurer at New York to receive $279,291.81, in gold coin from Messrs. Lazard Freres as a transfer of funds to the credit of the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, on account of gold coin to be delivered to their order as agents of the Government of Costa Rica, at the Philadelphia Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 4, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 38, dated April 30, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 38 dated April 24, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $30,021.97; charges $81.00, and net value $29,940.97. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 4, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of May 1897, has been approved for the sum of $39,200.-, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897.	$ 3,500.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	30,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	
Parting & Refining Bullion,	—	2,500.
Storage of Sil. Billion (Act. July 14, 1890,)		3,200.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 4, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Mr. Calvo, the Minister of Costa Rica will visit your Mint on Thursday next.

Messrs. Lazard Freres will deposit with the Assistant Treasurer at New York to your credit (as a transfer of funds) $279,291.81 in gold coin, and upon delivery of the certificate to you, you will deliver to their representative the gold coin executed for the Costa Rican government, charging the same in your Bullion account as a

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transfer of funds.

Messrs Lazard Freres will also be directed to forward a check for $958.19 to cover expenses incident to the coinage of the 60,000 Ten Colones pieces.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 4, 1897.

Captain F. F. Atkinson,
No 7 Pine Street, New York, N.Y.

Sir:

Your letter of the first instant to the Secretary of the Treasury has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply you are respectfully informed that if you will forward the sample of the metal referred to a trial will be given it, to ascertain its suitableness for the manufacture of the minor coins (five and one cent pieces.)

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 4, 1897.

Senor Don Bernardo Calvo,
Minister Resident, Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Referring to the conversation had with you this morning, and after consultation with the Treasurer of the United States, I have the honor to inform you that the Assistant Treasurer at New York will be

directed to receive from Messrs Lazard Freres, $279,291.81, in gold coin, to the credit of the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia. A certificate of deposit will be given Messrs. Lazard Freres for this amount, and upon presentation of the same to the Mint at Philadelphia, the gold coin for your Government will be delivered to the Express Company or such parties as may be indicated.

I will thank you to request Messrs. Lazard Freres to make the deposit of $279,291.81 with the Assistant Treasurer at New York to cover the value of the bullion, and to forward their check to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia for $958.19, the cost of manufacturing the coins.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 4, 1897.

E. M. Highfield, Esq.,
No 10 Shirley Building,
Detroit, Michigan.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that if you will forward by registered mail the locket referred to, to the Superintendent of the Mint of the U. S. at Philadelphia, he will return you the value of the same.

I would say however, that it is probable that you will be disappointed in the amount received in return, as the Mint will pay only for the gold actually contained, as determined by melt and assay.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 4, 1897.

C. H. Holmes, Esq.,
Agent, Wichita & Western Railway,
Cairo, Kansas.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 29th ultimo, I enclose herewith copy of the Act of March 3rd, 1897, prescribing punishment for mutilating United States coins or for passing the same.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint

May 4, 1897.

A. H. Richards, Esq.,
Sheldon Block, El Paso, Texas.

Sir:

Your letter of the 30th ultimo transmitting a package of gold bullion has been received, and the same has been forwarded to the Mint at Philadelphia, from which returns will be made you.

This Bureau has no facilities for making payments for gold deposits.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 5, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United

States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of One Hundred and Nine Thousand Five Hundred and Eight $\frac{75}{100}$ Dollars ($109,508.75) in Gold Coin, and Three Hundred and Twenty-eight $\frac{26}{100}$ Dollars ($328.26) in Silver Coin, making a total of One Hundred and Nine Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty-seven $\frac{01}{100}$ Dollars ($109,837.01) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 58, dated May 1, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 5, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 58, dated May 1, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 56, dated April 27, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $110,056.24; charges $219.23, and net value $109,837.01. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 5, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Prepare coins for shipment to Expositions.
Letter by mail.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 5, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Have Eckfeldt procure and forward today, two pounds of lead, absolutely free from gold silver or antimony.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Telegrams Confirmed.

May 5, 1897.

Superintendent U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Please go to Richards & Co., No. 41 Barclay Street, and purchase one pound chemically pure antimony in sticks, and forward same today.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 5, 1897.

Exiner and Arnend,
205 Third Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Antimony furnished on order of 29th was commercial and not chemically pure as requested.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 5, 1897.

Richards & Co.,
41 Barclay Street,
New York.

Telegram Confirmed

Forward me by express today, two pounds of lead absolutely free from gold, silver or antimony.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 4, 1897.

Herman A. Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	Del. 88	,	10.00
Total		,	$10.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 73	,	2.00
Total		,	$2.00

May 5, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins reserved at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	,	Del. 89	, 10.00
2 Quar Dollars	,	" 60	, .50
Total	,		$10.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 5, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of May 1897, has been approved for the sum of $12,200.00, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$ 2,700.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	7,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	2,500.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

over.

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E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

May 1897

$2,500.00

Salaries	1897,	$ 600.
Wages of Workmen	1897,	1200.
Contingent Expenses	1897,	700.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

May 1897

$324.30

Salaries	1897,	$ 234.30
Wages of Workmen	1897,	90.00
Contingent Expenses	1897,	

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

May 1897

$404.70

Salaries	1897,	$ 255.60
Wages of Workmen	1897,	85.20
Contingent Expenses	1897,	63.90

May 5, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You are hereby requested and authorized to furnish from the collection in the Cabinet of your Mint the current coins of all Nations, for the use of the exhibit of the Treasury Department

at the Tennessee Centennial Exposition.

The coins should be shipped by express to S. L. Lupton, United States Exposition Building, Nashville, Tennessee.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 5, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

When you commence to strike the coins for San Domingo, which it is expected are to contain 35 parts of silver, assays should be made from time to time, to determine whether these coins do contain the percentage of silver called for.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 5, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages, Contingent & Refinery Expense Accounts with Abstracts and Vouchers for the Month ending April 30th 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 5, 1897.

E. N. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, an account of the Virginia and Truckee Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of July 1896, from Carson, Nev. to San Francisco, of Mint supplies, amounting to 90¢, shipped by your Mint, payable from the appropriation for Contingent expenses of your Mint fiscal year 1897.

Duplicate B/L herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

May 6, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Eighty Thousand Five Hundred and Fifty-six $\frac{81}{100}$ Dollars ($80,556.81) in Gold Coin, and Sixty-five $\frac{41}{100}$ Dollars ($65.41) in Silver Coin, making a total of Eighty Thousand Six Hundred and Twenty-two $\frac{22}{100}$ Dollars ($80,622.22) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum

No. 59 dated May 3, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:
+ + + Assay Office at St. Louis,
+ Mint at Philadelphia + Ten Thousand
Two Hundred and Thirty-six 60/100 Dollars
($10,236.60) in Gold Coin + Sixty-four 25/100
+ ($64.25) + total of Ten Thousand Three
Hundred and 85/100 + ($10,300.85) +
Bullion + Assayer + Memorandum
No. 256 + May 3, 1897 + + +

May 6, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, Colo., be increased in the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer, U. S., at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:
+ + + Assay Office at Helena
+ increased + One Hundred Thousand
+ ($100,000.-) + + lawful money

+ Assayer in charge + with the Montana National Bank, Helena, Montana.

May 6, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent and Refinery accounts, of the Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York, N.Y. for the month ending April 30, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent April 4, 1897
" recd " 5, 1897.

May 6, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 59, dated May 3, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 59 dated April 29, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $80,682.49; charges $60.27, and net value $80,622.22. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

over.

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Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Deposit Memorandum No. 256 + May 3, 1897 + Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 256 + April 30, 1897 + + + +

$10,335.56; + $34.71 + $10,300.85.

+ + + + +

May 6, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Montana National Bank, Helena, Montana.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 6, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent and Refinery accounts for the Month ending April 30, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director, Mint.

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May 6, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Half Eagles	Del. 90	10.00
Total		$10.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	April 1897 Del. 26	40.00
Total		$40.00

May 6, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of May 1897, has been approved for the sum of $2700. payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint, during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897.	$ 1,200.
Wages of Workmen,	1897.	1,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897.	500.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 6, 1897.

Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I return herewith your account for the life-saving medal awarded Daniel E. Lynn, in order that the same may be properly made out. This account should be made out in the name of the Treasury Department and not on account of the State Department. The account should be in duplicate and should be receipted by you as Superintendent as the same will be paid by Disbursing Officer's checks.

The medal has been delivered by the Express Company.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 6. 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith find the account of the "North American" for publishing advertisements for supplies required by your Mint for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1898, amounting as approved by the Department to $131.20, which sum is payable from your appropriation for Contingent Expenses for the current fiscal year.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 82

May 6, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The Oregon Coal and Navigation Co., of Coos Bay wish to have you test their coal for steaming purposes and desire before the bids are opened for supplies for the next fiscal year, that they be permitted to deliver on contract two days supply of this coal for the purposes of a test.

I have to request that you will make a test of the coal so as to avoid complaints, and if it is found to be fit for the purpose and they should offer to furnish the same, their bids should receive due consideration.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

P. S. It is understood that the present contractor for coal at your Mint will deliver this coal for test.

R. E. P.

May 6, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith find the account of the Baltimore Copper Smelting and Rolling Co., for 10,000 pounds of ingot copper, shipped to your Mint, amounting to $1,160.-- and which is to be delivered free of all expense. Upon receipt of the copper you will please forward the Company a draft on New York for the amount.

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To enable you to make payment in this manner I have this day requested an advance of $1,160. to be made from your appropriation for the "Coinage of Standard Silver Dollars", Act of July 14th 1890, and placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 6, 1897

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages and Contingent expense Accounts with Abstracts and Vouchers for the Month ending April 30, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

May 6. 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Telegrams Confirmed

Until further notice pay for silver contained in gold deposits at the rate of fifty-five cents per ounce standard.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar telegrams to the following:-

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

over.

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Superintendent, U. S. Mint
New Orleans, La.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Assayer in Charge U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

May 6. 1897.

Messrs. Mason, Tuttle and Whitehead.

Gentlemen:

I hand you herewith a communication from W. H. Singleton, Solicitor for Mr. Brice, the inventor of an alleged process for creating gold and silver.

As this matter was placed in your hands for investigation I submit his letter to you for consideration and reply.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 6, 1897.

Baltimore Copper, Smelting & Rolling Co.,
Keyser Building, Baltimore, Md.

Gentlemen:-

Your account for ten thousand (10,000) pounds of ingot copper delivered to the Quartermaster for shipment to the United States Mint at New Orleans, has been received and I have forwarded the same to the Superintendent of that Institution with instructions to remit you a draft on New York for the amount, namely $1,160.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 6, 1897.

Hon. George C. Perkins,
United States Senate.

Sir:

Referring to the conversation had with you today, I have the honor to inform you that the Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco has been instructed by mail to test the coal of the Oregon Coal & Navigation Co., of Coos Bay, as desired, giving it a two day's trial. This test is to be made before the bids for coal for the fiscal year 1898 are considered.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 6, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars $300,000.- and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 7, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Ninety-seven Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty-one $\frac{85}{100}$ Dollars ($97,361.85) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Ninety-one $\frac{21}{100}$ Dollars ($291.21) in Silver Coin, making a total of Ninety-seven Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty-three $\frac{06}{100}$ Dollars ($97,653.06) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 60, dated May 4, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 7, 1897

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts, of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Mint at Denver, Colo. for the month ending April 30, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Accounts sent May 3, 1897
" recd " 6, 1897

May 7, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 60, dated May 4, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 60 dated April 30, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $97,840.85; charges $187.79, and net value $97,653.06. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 7, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages & Contingent Expense accounts, for the month ending April 30, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 7, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

In your letter of the twentieth ultimo, charges given for the manufacture of the Costa Rican coins aggregated $958.19.

I do not think it advisable that we should make any greater charges as the Costa Rican Minister was furnished with copy of your letter.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 7, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

The deposit for the Costa Rican government made with the Assistant Treasurer at New York yesterday. It will be necessary for you to deliver to the Representative of that Government gold coin of the value of $279,291.81 and credit yourself with that amount as

a transfer of funds to the Treasurer. You will collect $80.27 from the Representative of Costa Rica.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 7, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of April 1897, has been approved for the sum of $26,500.- payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897	$ 3,500.
Wages of Workmen,	1897	15,000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897	1,000.
Parting & Refining bullion	———	2,000.
Coinage of Silver Bullion (Act July 14, 1890)		5,000.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 7, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury, for examination and settlement, an account of the Baltimore and Ohio Railway Co., for the trans-

portation in the Month of April 1896 from Baltimore, Md. to Chicago, Ills. of Ingot Copper amounting to $7200 consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint, fiscal year 1896.

Duplicate bill & B/L herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

May 7, 1897.

Mrs. Ida S. Bellinger,
Ft. Scott, Kansas.

Madam:

In reply to your letter of the 5th instant, you are respectfully informed that the piece described in your letter is what is known as the Spell mark, and is made for the purpose of deception.

The piece of which you enclose a pencilling is made to represent the twenty dollar gold piece. It has no value.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 7, 1897.

Charles D. Walcott, Esq.,
Director, U. S. Geological Survey.

Sir:

I have delayed answering your letter of the 29th ultimo in the hope that I could be able to give you the final figures of the production of gold and silver in Idaho for 1896, but I will not be able to do so for a week

or ten days.

According to an estimate of Mr. F. F. Church, Assayer in Charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Boise City, Idaho, the gold product for the State of Idaho for the calendar year 1896, was 112,409 fine ounces of the value of $2,323,700. He estimates the product of Boise County to have been 15,770 ounces of the value of $325,995. He gives no separate estimates of particular districts.

The estimates of the Director of the Mint on the production of the precious metals has always been confined to the total product of a State and no estimate has been made by this Bureau of the product of any particular county or district, and figures that will be furnished you in the course of ten days will be the total product of the State.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 8, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of Twelve Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty-six $\frac{63}{100}$ Dollars ($12,536.63) in Gold Coin, and Fifty-seven $\frac{40}{100}$ Dollars ($57.40) in Silver Coin, making a total of Twelve Thousand Five Hundred and Ninety-four $\frac{03}{100}$ Dollars ($12,594.03)

being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 39, dated May 5, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address:

+ + + Assay Office at Charlotte + Mint at Philadelphia + Fifteen Thousand Three Hundred and Twelve 05/100 + ($15,312.05) + Fifty Five 10/100 + ($55.10) + Fifteen Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty-seven 15/100 + ($15,367.15) + Bullion + Assayer + Assay Office at Charlotte + Memorandum No. 4 + May 5, 1897 + + +

+ + + Assay Office at Boise + Mint at Philadelphia + Twelve Thousand Two Hundred and Seventeen 70/100 + ($12,217.70) + Sixty-four 28/100 + ($64.28) + Twelve Thousand Two Hundred and Eighty-one 98/100 + ($12,281.98) + Bullion + Assayer + Assay Office at Boise + Memorandum No. 38 + May 6, 1897 + + + +

May 8, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 39, dated May 5, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 39 dated April 30, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be

$12,624.97; charges $30.94, and net value $12,594.03.
For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, to:
W. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Deposit Memorandum No. 4 + May 5, 1897,
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 4
+ April 30, 1897 + + +
$15,405.26; + $38.11, + $15,367.15.
+ + + Mint at Philadelphia.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Deposit Memorandum No. 38 + May 6, 1897,
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 38
+ April 30, 1897 + + +
$12,314.94; + $32.96, + $12,281.98.
+ + + + +

May 8, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I will thank you to cause to be prepared by the Assayer of your Institution, one pound of antimony to be absolutely free from gold and silver. Dr. Tuttle will explain

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fully the object for which this is required.

You will please cause this to be made without delay as the antimony is required for immediate use.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 8, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

4 S. S. Dollars	Del. 159+160	4.00
Total		$4.00

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 8, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

For the purpose of completing in a satisfactory manner the tests in which yourself, Dr. Tuttle and Mr. Whitehead are now engaged in making in the Laboratory of this Bureau, I will thank you to cause to be prepared, under the auspices of the Assayer of your Institution one pound of Antimony to be absolutely free from both gold and silver.

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Great care should be taken to secure this result.

You will please cause this to be made without delay as the Antimony is required for immediate use.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 8, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I find that in your requisition for funds for the Month of May you request the sum of $600. from your appropriation for salaries which is an excess of $150. above your balance. The advance has been changed to conform to your balance and $150. have been advanced you from your appropriation for Contingent Expenses to avoid changing the aggregate requested $2,500. I would say in this connection that greater care must be exercised by your bookkeeper to avoid errors of this kind.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 8, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your

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Salaries, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Storage of Silver Bullion Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the month ending April 30, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:-

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

+ + + Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Silver Bullion + Months + April 30, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

+ + + Salary, Wages + Contingent Expense + Month + April 30, 1897.

May 8, 1897.

C. D. Kendall, Esq.,
Newton, Illinois.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 6th instant, you are respectfully informed that if you will send the nuggett of gold referred to, to the Mint at Philadelphia, per registered mail, you will receive the value of the same in like manner.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 8, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.,
Waterbury, Connecticut.

Sir:

I send you by express today a box containing medals of award of the World's Columbian Exposition, returned by exhibitors on account of errors in their names. I will thank you to cause new medals to be struck and forwarded to this Bureau as early as practicable, for the following:

No. Medal.	Name as Printed	Correct Name.
3834	Edward Cooper,	Elwood Cooper
8065	Puntier Brown Stone Co.,	Prentice Brown Stone Co.
	Western Paper Manufacturing Company.	The Weston Paper & Mfg. Co.
23.440.	Steujiuro Numajiri	Steujiuro Numajiri and three others.
23449	Koki Homma.	Koki Homma, Takichi Oyama and Kinsaku Abe.
2472	Sadasuke Ishikawa	Sadasuke Ishikawa and two others.
22489	Japanese Railway Bureau (Department of Home Affairs)	Bureau of Engineering (Department of Home Affairs)
10838	Shojiro Eto	Katsuyoshi Eto.
10847	M. Matsa	Manjiro Mizota.
12283	Kiesburo Matsumoto	Kiesburo Matsumoto and nine others.
22580	District of Gumma.	Isesakishima Exhibitors, District of Gumma.
13521	Shimpli Arai.	Shimpei Arai.
15579	Shosaburo Yamamoto.	Seizo Yamamoto.

No. Medal.	Name as Printed.	Correct Name
22589	Japanese Woman's Club.	Japanese Ladies Commission.
23436	Genkuro Abe.	Yoshisato Seimai Kumiai.
23447	Kichigoro Muraki	Kichitaro Muraki.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 8, 1897.

A. T. Pierce, Esq.,
Rooms 304-9, American Bank Building,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 4th instant, I forward you by today's mail a copy of Department Circular No. 123, on pages 44-51 of which you will find the coinage of the Mints from their organization, 1792, to December 31st 1895, inclusive.

Prior to 1864 the imports and exports of gold and silver were not kept separately, hence I am unable to give you the amount of gold coin or bullion exported to foreign countries from 1815 to 1825.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 10, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion

Fund of the United States Assay Office at St. Louis be increased in the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars $20,000.- by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at St. Louis, Mo.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 10, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in the name of John Daggett, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at San Francisco, the sum of two hundred and forty-five thousand, nine hundred and fifty-one dollars and twenty-four cents ($245,951.24) on account of profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th, 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of said Mint be increased by a transfer of the same amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + deposited in the Treasury
+ name of Overton Cade + U. S. New Orleans
+ two hundred and one thousand, five hundred and twenty-two dollars and forty-four cents
($201,522.44) + profits on coinage + +
+ + + + + +

May 10, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Storage of Sil. Bul. accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, Pa. for the month ending April 30, 1897 rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent May 7, 1897.
" recd " 8, 1897.

May 10, 1897.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at St. Louis.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 10, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:- I have this day requested the Secretary

of the Treasury to cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in your name the sum of $245,951.24, on account of profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, and that the Bullion Fund of your Mint be increased by a transfer of that amount.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

+ + + deposited in the Treasury
in your name + $201,522.44 +
profits on the coinage of silver bullion + +

May 10, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Storage of Silver Bullion accounts for the Month ending April 30, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 10, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	Del. 27	10.00
Total		$10.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

+	+	+
2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 161	2.00
Total		$2.00

May 10, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith for your examination an review, a revised estimate made by the Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco, in February last of the cost of coinage, which I will thank you to return to this Bureau with such remarks as you may deem proper to make. In the next Annual Report I intend to publish these figures in full.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 10, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

On transmitting your account for the Life Saving Medal for Daniel E. Lynn you omitted to forward sub vouchers for case, mounting, engraving and expressage.

Please forward the same by return mail.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 10, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 22nd ultimo, in reference to the appointment of Laborers, I would say that you can employ temporarily such Laborers as may be absolutely necessary for the conduct of the work at your Mint, but owing to the fact that the gold coinage for some months past at your Mint has been comparatively small, and the further fact that at the present rate of coinage the amount of silver bullion, purchased under the Act of July 14th, 1890, on hand at your Mint will be consumed within the next six months, I think it very advisable that the force to be employed should be restricted to the absolute requirements, as when the silver purchased under the

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Act of July 14th 1890, is coined, it will be necessary to dispense with part of the force employed at your Institution.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 10, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I enclose herewith four quarter dollars, coined at your Mint, and I desire particularly to invite your attention to the manner in which these coins are milled and reeded.

From inspection it is perfectly clear that the imperfect milling and reeding is all due to the failure on the part of the Coiner or his Assistant to exercise proper supervision over the coining room as well as to the carelessness on the part of the Foreman and the Machinist.

I will thank you to call the attention of the Coiner to this matter without delay, that he may take steps hereafter to see that no coins that are imperfectly milled and reeded such as these enclosed, be permitted to leave the Mint. You will please return one dollar in currency for the coins enclosed.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 10, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:-

You are hereby authorized to invite proposals for sale of 14 barrels W. & R. sweeps and 10 barrels Superintendent's sweeps, at your institution and to accept the highest bid for the same, forwarding the proposals with your final statement of sale, when completed, to this Bureau.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 10, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

As requested in your letter of the 8th instant, I have made requisition on the Stationery, Printing and Blank Division for 50 check books.

Sample book of checks returned by today's mail.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint

May 10, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U.S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Sir: Referring to your letter of the 27th ultimo,

enclosing letter from the Denver National Bank, asking that provisions be made for payment of gold deposits of the Omaha & Grant bars by draft on New York, you are respectfully informed that the Department does not deem it advisable to make payment of gold deposits at your Institution by draft on New York.

Arrangements however, will be made to pay as much in Denver funds as possible. The remainder will be paid by drafts on Chicago as heretofore.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 10, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Sir:

I return herewith the letter of the El Paso Reduction Works, enclosed in your letter of the fourth instant for the information of this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint,

May 10, 1897.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your

Salary, Wages, & Contingent expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers for the Month ending April 30, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

May 10, 1897.

A. W. Lewis, Esq.,
Crawford, Lowndes Co., Miss.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of March 22nd 1897, which by an oversight remained unanswered, you are respectfully informed that the coin referred to is a three cent nickel piece.

The Government published no catalogue of, or pays any premium on coins.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 10, 1897.

Charles E. Peregrine, Esq.,
Brooks, Iowa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 24th ultimo, sent to the Superintendent of the Mint at Carson City, Nevada, has been referred to this Bureau for reply. The pasting of the label enclosed is a violation of the Act of March 3rd 1897, a copy of which is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 11, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	Del. 93	10.00
Total		$10.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 75	2.00
Total		$2.00

May 11, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of April & May 1897 and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:

over.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

April 1897

May 11, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the (no letter) Certificate of Deposit No. 9335 for $958.19 being on account of charges for Costa Rica gold coinage, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to his office.

Personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts and the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 11, 1897.

Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You are hereby authorized and requested to come to Washington for consultation. It is desirable that you should be here Thursday morning.

While engaged in this service your necessary traveling and other expenses will be paid upon your rendering your account for the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 11, 1897.

Telegram Confirmed

Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Will not need you until Thursday morning.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 11, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

I am advised by the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia that the pure antimony being prepared at that Institution will not be ready before Thursday or Friday next.

I have therefore to request that you will be here Thursday morning to proceed with the tests now being made in the Laboratory of this Bureau.

While engaged in this service your necessary traveling and other expenses will be paid upon your rendering a voucher for the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 11, 1897.

Dr. D. K. Tuttle,
Melter & Refiner, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have requested Mr. Mason to be here on Thursday morning next, to resume the tests in the Laboratory of this Bureau.

I will thank you to be present that day if practicable. It is probable the tests can be finished during the week.

While engaged in this service your necessary traveling and other expenses will be paid upon your rendering your account for the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 12, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to state, that owing to the large amount of work, due to the number of deposits that the Assayer of the United States Assay Office at New York is required to handle, it has been found impracticable to continue to assay samples of base lead and copper bullion and ores at that institution with a view of determining the gold and silver contents of the same.

I have therefore to respectfully request that the Collectors of Customs at the Ports of New York, Newark and Perth Amboy, be instructed in future to forward the samples heretofore delivered to the Assay Office at New York to this Bureau, where assays of the same will be made in the Laboratory, and the gold and silver contents determined.

In this connection, I would respectfully suggest the propriety of determining also the lead, copper and zinc contents of these

importations in the Laboratory of this Bureau, as a check upon the assays made in New York. If you should think favorably of this, instructions should be given that the results of assays made at the Custom Houses should be reported to you for the purpose of comparison with the assays made by this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 12, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	Del. 94	10.00
2 Quar. Dollars	" 61	.50
Total		$10.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 76	2.00
Total		$ 2.00

RG104 E-235 Vol 82

May 12, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 11th instant, you are authorized to purchase from the Scovill Manufacturing Company of Waterbury, Connecticut, the following quantities of nickel, tin and bronze for alloy, for the coinage of minor coins, viz:-

146 467/1000	lbs. Nickel	at 40¢	$58.58
4 711/100	lbs. Tin	" 13¢	.61
4 711/100	lbs. Zinc	" 4¢	.19
			$59.38

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 12, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I return herewith medal fund vouchers for gold life saving medal awarded Daniel E. Lynn, under Joint Resolution of Congress, March second 1897. In my letter of the 6th instant, returning this account, you were advised that it should be receipted in duplicate by yourself as Superintendent, and not by any subordinate.

In my letter of the 5th instant, you were requested to furnish sub vouchers for the case, mounting, engraving and expressage, which you have failed to forward.

I will thank you to forward them with the account receipted in duplicate by yourself.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 12, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the (no letter) Certificate of Deposit No. 9336 for $40,000, being on account of Minor coinage profits, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to his office.

Personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts and the amount covered into the Treasury as profits on Minor Coinage.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 12, 1897.

Messrs. H. S. Reich & Co.,
No. 177 La Salle Street,
Chicago, Illinois.

Gentlemen:

In reply to your letter of the 7th instant, you are respectfully informed that no duplicates of the medal of award of the World's Columbian Exposition can be made, as it would be a violation of law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 13, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of One Hundred and Eight Thousand Two Hundred and Forty-four $\frac{21}{100}$ Dollars ($108,244.21) in Gold Coin, and Three Hundred and One $\frac{95}{100}$ Dollars ($301.95) in Silver Coin, making a total of One Hundred and Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Forty-six $\frac{16}{100}$ Dollars ($108,546.16) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 61, dated May 10, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 13, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent and Refinery Expense accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Carson, Nevada, for the month ending April 30, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director.

Accounts sent May 3, 1897.
" recd " 8, 1897.

May 13, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 61, dated May 10, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 61, dated May 6, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $108,692.32; charges $146.16, and net value $108,546.16. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 13, 1897.

E. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent and Refinery Ex. accounts for the month ending April 30, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 13, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent U.S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:-

In comparing the figures in the Statement enclosed in your letter of January 27, 1897, showing the domestic and foreign gold exports from the port of New York, for the calendar year 1896, with the statements, for the same period, furnished this Bureau by the Collector of Customs at New York, I find such a vast difference that I should be pleased to have you examine and compare the figures hereto annexed and report the facts in the matter at your earliest convenience.

The total difference between your figures and the Collector's is $1,303,621, and the items in which this difference occurs are as follows:-

Gold Exports.

Items	Collector's Figures	Assay Office Figures	Difference
Foreign coin,	$ 1,565,483	$ 1,584,627	$ 19,144
United States coin,	32,157,290	32,745,902	588,612
Mint & Assay Office bars,	9,550,516	17,069,259	7,518,743
Other bars,	6,838,527	15,649	6,822,878
Total	$50,111,816	$51,415,437	

In the above (Collector's figures), it seems almost incredible that nearly seven million dollars were exported in bars other than Mint or Assay Office and I wish to call your attention to these shipments, for the months of May and

June especially.

The differences in the above figures occur in the following items:-

Foreign coin $19.44-

Shipments.	Collector's figures.	Assay Office figures.
England	$ ———	$ 18,444
Mexico, etc.	294,153	294,853
Total	$ 294,153	$313,297

United States coin $588,612:-

Shipments.	Collector's figures.	Assay Office figures.
England,	$ 350,000	$ 2,400,300
Germany.	26,128,575	24,678,575
France,	2,000,300	2,000,300
Mexico, etc.	3,678,215	3,666,327
Total	$ 32,157,290	$ 32,745,902

Differences Continued:-

Mint and Assay Office bars $7,518,743:-

Shipments.	Collector's figures.	Assay Office figures.
England	$ 9,550,516	$ 9,548,767
Germany	———	2,316,341
France	———	5,204,151
Total	$ 9,550,516	$17,069,259

Other bars $6,822,878:-

England	$ 16,400	4,749
Germany	2,322,001	5,780
France	4,3.00,126	———
Mexico, etc.	———	5,120
Total	$ 6,838,527	$ 15,649

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 82

May 13, 1897.

J. W. Cunningham, Esq.,
United States Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Your letter of the 8th instant, enclosing your official signature for certification to the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago and San Francisco, has been received and upon receiving notification from you by wire on the fifteenth instant, they will be certified and mailed you.

As soon as I have received notification that you have entered upon duty, I will cause funds to be placed to your credit with both the Assistant Treasurer at San Francisco and Chicago, to enable you to make payment for deposits. I have instructed your predecessor Mr. Church to forward his check to the Treasurer of the United States for any balance that may remain to his credit with the Assistant Treasurer at San Francisco and Chicago at the date of your entry on duty on account of bullion fund and also to deposit to the credit of the respective appropriations any balance in his hands of moneys heretofore advanced him for the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 13, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith some papers left with me today by Major Palmer, with the request that they be placed upon the files of your Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 13, 1897.

Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Send by registered mail today four or five silver medals ranging in size from a half to a silver dollar for temporary use.

Telegram Confirmed.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 13, 1897.

Einer & Amend,
205 Third Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

Send by express today ten pounds chemically pure tartar emetic.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 13, 1897.

W. A. Glassford, Esq.,
Office of the Signal Service,
Denver, Colorado.

Sir:

In answer to your letter of the 8th instant,

I send you by today's mail a copy of the Coinage Laws etc., Senate Edition and would refer you to pages 102-188.

The United States recoinage in these tables include not only U.S. coins, but all other foreign coins melted by the United States for coinage into United States coins.

In the following table (since 1890) the recoinage of our own coins only, is given. All of the figures represent coining value.

Recoinage of Gold and Silver.

World.

Date.	Gold.	Silver.
1890	$ 23,750,993	$ 11,348,820
1891	9,003,674	8,617,474
1892	90,912,807	19,660,760
1893	37,883,961	23,506,983
1894	22,856,138	18,188,408
1895	13,955,712	12,383,247.

Recoinage of Gold and Silver.

United States only.

Date.	Gold.	Silver.
1890	$ 840,130	$ 3,373,000
1891	567,549	4,227,553
1892	558,334	8,275,440
1893	1,717,957	5,952,389
1894	1,288,346	5,799,541
1895	1,098,901	3,497,374

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 13, 1897.

R. S. Hatcher, Esq.,
Secretary, International Postal Congress.

My dear Sir:

Referring to the conversation had with you this morning, I would say that the cost of the silver in a silver medal the size of a half dollar would be about twenty-seven cents; in a medal the size of the silver dollar, about fifty-eight cents.

I have telegraphed to the Mint at Philadelphia today to forward me half a dozen silver medals ranging in size from half a dollar to that of a silver dollar, in order that you may be better able to select the size you prefer for the Postal Congress medal.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 13, 1897.

George L. Mong, Esq.,
Minerva, Ohio.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 11th instant in reference to mutilation of United States coins, I enclose herewith copy of the Act of March 3rd 1897, in reference to the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 82

May 13, 1897.

C. N. Runnels, Esq.,
Port Huron, Michigan.

Sir:

Your letter of the 11th instant, to the Treasurer of the United States, enclosing check on the American Exchange National Bank of New York, has been referred to this Bureau, and I have forwarded the same to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, who will transmit you a set of proof coins of the coinage of the current calendar year.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 13, 1897.

W. H. Webb, Esq.,
Walters, Idaho.

Sir:

Your letter of the 1st instant, addressed to the United States Assayer, Salem, Oregon, has been forwarded to this Bureau, and in reply you are respectfully informed that the gold referred to has not been forwarded. If sent by registered mail, it is probably in the Post Office at Salem, Oregon.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

P. S.

There is no Assay Office of the U. S., at Salem, Oregon. There is one at Boise City, Idaho.

R. E. P.

May 14, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of One Hundred and Four Thousand Four Hundred and Ninety-seven $\frac{89}{100}$ Dollars ($104,497.89) in Gold Coin, and Seventy-seven $\frac{27}{100}$ Dollars ($77.27) in Silver Coin, making a total of One Hundred and Four Thousand Five Hundred and Seventy-five $\frac{16}{100}$ Dollars ($104,575.16) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver as shown by Memorandum No. 62 dated May 11, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 14, 1897.

Hon Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, be increased in the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the First National, Colorado National and Denver National Banks, Denver, Colo.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 82

May 14, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery and Coinage of Silver Bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at New Orleans for the month ending April 30, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent May 5, 1897.
" recd " 8, 1897.

May 14, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 62, dated May 11, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 62, dated May 7, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $104,773.68; charges $198.52, and net value $104,575.16. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 82

May 14, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the First National, Colorado National and Denver National Banks, Denver, Colo.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 14, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Sil. Bul. accounts for the month ending April 30, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 14, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper

Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, an account of the Baltimore and Ohio Railway Co., for the transportation in the Months of October and December 1896, from Baltimore, Md. to Chicago, Ills. of Ingot Copper amounting to $1444.00, consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses U. S. Mint San Francisco, 1897.

Duplicate Bill and B/L herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

May 14, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I enclose herewith Assay report on Silver Bullion Deposit #1488 and desire to know if the charges imposed are correct. The Abstract sheet does not show the Toughening charge of ½ cent and there is an apparent error of $27.64 in the Toughening charge on the Deposit.

The total charges as per Abstract sheet, on the Deposit, are $88.45.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston, Director.

May 14, 1897.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

Sir:

In reply to inquiries contained in your com-

munication of the 6th instant, relative to charges that should be imposed on deposit of Gold "Mint bar" I have to say that, had the bar in question been deposited at the Philadelphia Mint, no charge would have been imposed except an alloy charge, but, having been deposited at your Institution, you are not obliged to accept the weight and fineness stamped on the bar as correct, and therefore, to protect yourself, should weigh and assay the bar by clipping. It would not be necessary to melt the bar, for, when shipped to the Philadelphia Mint it would be received without melting or the imposing of a melting charge. Hence, the charges that should be imposed on the deposit in question, would be an "Assay and Stamping" and an "Alloy" charge. (See Secs. #4 and #5, Art. 5, Instructions and Regulations.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint

May 14, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You will please prepare and forward in time to reach this Bureau not later than June 10th, your semi-annual requisition for blank record books and forms.

Your requisition should be in the shape of a letter and contain full information respecting the quantity desired, form number, title,

size in inches, style of binding etc.

Each sample forwarded should be numbered to correspond with a similar number in your letter and should contain instructions in full for the printer.

A strict compliance with Department Circular, enclosed herewith, is required.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Denver, Colo.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

over.

W. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

May 14, 1897.

H. Bronson, Esq.,
La Belle, Lewis County, Mo.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 10th instant, you are respectfully informed that under the old law the gold yen of Japan contained 25.72 grains of standard gold or 23.148 grains of pure gold.

Under the new law the smallest gold piece to be coined is the five-yen, containing 64.299+ grains nine-tenths fine.

The new law goes into effect on the first of October next.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 15, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion

Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise, be increased in the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of J. W. Cunningham, Assayer in charge of said institution as follows, viz:

$50,000.- with Asst. Treasurer U. S. at Chicago and
$50,000.- with Asst. Treasurer U. S. at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 15, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Lil. Bul. accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at San Francisco, for the month ending April 30, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent May 8, 1897.
" recd " 13, 1897.

May 15, 1897.

J. W. Cunningham, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution, be increased by a

transfer of One Hundred Thousand Dollars $100,000.- and that $50,000.- of that amount be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago and like amount with the Assistant Treasurer U.S. at San Francisco, by wire.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 15, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, Contingent, Refinery & Coinage of Sil. Bul. accounts, for the month ending April 30, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 15, 1897.

Overton, Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S.S. Dollars	Del. 163	2.00
	Total	$2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston Director Mint

May 13, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	,	Del. 95	, 10.00
Total	,		$ 10.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 77	, 2.00
Total	,		$ 2.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 162	, 2.00
Total	,		$ 2.00

May 15, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I return herewith the four silver medals forwarded in compliance with the request

contained in my letter of the 13th instant.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 15, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

The Postmaster General has decided upon having a silver medal struck to present to the members of the Fifth Univeral Postal Congress, now in session in this city. The medal to be struck of the same size as that of the Nashville Exposition medal. Upon the obverse is to be the head of Washington and on the reverse the following inscription,- "Members of Fifth Universal Postal Congress, Washington, 1897." The same to be surrounded by a wreath. The head of Washington selected by the Committee is that of Washington on the small allegiance medal struck in silver in 1861, and which is returned you today.

I will thank you to have the Engraver of your Mint prepare sketches and forward the same, that they may be submitted to the Postmaster General and the Committee for their approval. It is very desirable that this medal should be prepared without delay in order that the same may be presented to the members of the Postal Congress before their departure from Washington which will be in the course of five or six weeks.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 15, 1897.

To the
Assistant Treasurer U.S.,
Chicago, Ills.

Sir:

Mr J. W. Cunningham recently appointed Assayer in Charge of the United States Assay Office at Boise, Idaho, has entered upon duty today. I enclose herewith his official bond properly certified to.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Official Signature:
J. W. Cunningham,
Assayer in Charge.

I hereby certify that the above is the official signature of J. W. Cunningham, Assayer in Charge of the United States Assay Office at Boise, Idaho.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters:-

To the Assistant Treasurer U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

May 15, 1897.

H. D. Clark, Esq.,
No. 124 Dyer Street,
Augusta, Georgia.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 13th instant, you are respectfully informed that the Government pays no premium on coins of any kind. The five cent piece referred

to is one of the nickel pieces that were first struck when the design was changed in 1883, and the word "cents" omitted.

There were about 1,500,000 of these pieces struck, and are, from a numismatic point of view, not rare.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 15, 1897.

John Holler, Esq.,
Manager, Dickerman's Counterfeit Detector,
No 31 Broad Street, New York.

Sir:

Your letter of the 8th instant to the Secretary of the Treasury has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply you are respectfully informed that the coins enclosed by you bearing the mark of the Mint at New Orleans are genuine, but the execution shows great carelessness in the adjustment collar.

Enclosed herewith you will find fifty cents in lieu of the coins enclosed by you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 15, 1897.

O. A. Jones, Esq.,
Laurel, North Carolina.

Sir:

Your letter of the 1st instant, enclosing a small lot of gold has been received and referred to the Superintendent of the

U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, who will return you the value of the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 15, 1897.

Dr. J. P. Kimball,
No. 1 West 21st Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

I have forwarded you by today's mail a special bound copy of the report of the Director on the Production of the Precious Metals for the calendar year 1895. These copies were only received from the Bindery yesterday.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 15, 1897.

James M. Spratt, Esq.,
Paying Teller, Natl Bank of Jacksonville,
Jacksonville, Florida.

Sir:

Your letter of the 7th instant to the Treasurer of the United States enclosing three quarter dollars bearing the mark of the Mint at New Orleans, has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply you are respectfully informed that these coins are genuine, but there has been great carelessness in properly adjusting the collar, hence the reeding is very defective.

Enclosed herewith you will please

find seventy-five cents in lieu of the coins enclosed by you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 15, 1897.

F. F. Atkinson, Esq.,
Assistant Engineer,
No. 7 Pine Street, New York.

Sir:

Your letter of the 12th instant together with specimen of metal has been received. I shall forward the metal to the Mint at Philadelphia, and when the next test for metal for minor coinage is made, which will be in the course of a few months, it will be tried and the result reported to you.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 17, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Boise, Idaho, for the month ending April 30, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent May 8, 1897.
" recd " 14, 1897.
Similar letter except as noted, to same address: over.

+ + + Bullion accounts +
Superintendent + U. S. Mint at San Francisco,
California + Quarter + March 31, 1897,
+ + adjustment as required by law.
Accounts forwarded April 19, 1897.
" received " 27, 1897.

May 17, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages, & Contingent Expense accounts, for the month ending April 30, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

+ + + proper accounting
officers + + your Bullion accounts
+ Quarter + March 31, 1897, with my approval, except error in P. & R. charge on Gold deposit #3648, Assay No. 5821. The charge should have been a 3/2 instead of 2/2 cent charge and the total amount $3.25 instead of $2.32, a difference of 93 cents, which I recommend be disallowed.

May 17, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Months of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

4 S. S. Dollars	Del. 79 & 80	4.00
Total		$4.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 17, 1897.

J. W. Cunningham, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of May, 1897, has been approved for the sum of $911.61, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$272.60
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	590.00
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	49.01

This amount exhausts this appropriation for the year, more may be spared when your predecessor makes his deposits.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 17, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The enclosed has been referred to me by the Secretary of the Treasury for report, but before I can report on the same, it is necessary that full information should be furnished by you.

I would say that it is the wish of the administration that as far as practicable, when soldiers are found able to perform the duties that would be required, preference should be given them in the appointments in the Mint, which I understand is the policy that you have adopted.

It is desirable that you should submit your report as early as may be practicable.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 17, 1897.

Assayer in Charge U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Telegram Confirmed

Fifty thousand dollars will be placed to your credit with Assistant Treasurer at Chicago today by wire, and a like amount at San Francisco.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 17, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I enclose herewith blanks for the Civil Service Commission, requesting nominations for Civil Service Examiners at your Mint, which were omitted in my letter of the 23rd ultimo.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter, to:-
Assayer in Charge, U.S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

May 17, 1897.

To the Postmaster,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

There is no Mint of the United States in Chicago. The letter herewith, of the Cashier of the Meeker County Bank of Litchfield, Minnesota, enclosing draft with the request that fifty dollars ($50.) in nickels be sent, should have been addressed to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, to whom the draft should have been made payable. It is therefore respectfully suggested that the same be returned to the writer.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 17, 1897.

S. W. Colby, Esq.,
Care of Dood Mead & Co.,
Nos. 149-51 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, I forward you herewith copy of Department Circular No. 123, and would respectfully refer you to page 13 of the same, which will give you the information asked for. If you will refer to pages 455-56-57 of the report for 1896, a copy of which you have, you will find the weight and fineness of all coins of the United States, authorized to be issued from 1792 to date.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 17, 1897.

S. Jackson Chandler, Esq.,
No. 1916 East Main Street,
Richmond, Virginia.

Sir:

Your letter of the 15th instant, enclosing mutilated and foreign silver coins received, and the same are returned herewith with the information that the Government does not purchase foreign silver coin in any form.

I also enclose herewith for your information, Department Circular, covering the purchase of uncurrent silver coins of the United States, by the Mints.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 18, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of Thirty-six Thousand Five Hundred and Eighty-nine $\frac{74}{100}$ Dollars ($36,589.74) in Gold Coin, and Four Hundred and Twenty-one $\frac{28}{100}$ Dollars ($421.28) in Silver Coin, making a total of Thirty-seven Thousand and Eleven $\frac{02}{100}$ Dollars ($37,011.02) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 40, dated May 14, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 18, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Mont.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 40, dated May 14, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 40 dated May 8, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $37,112.31; charges $101.29, and net value $37,011.02. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested

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from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 18, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins reserved at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Eagles	Del. 98	10.00
Total		10.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 81	2.00
Total		$2.00

May 18, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In compliance with your request of the 17th instant, I have this day asked the

Treasurer of the United States to discontinue shipments of minor coin for recoinage until after the first of July next.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 18, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Telegram Confirmed

You will count and hold the uncurrent silver coin being transferred to you from St. Louis intact, not melting same until instructed to do so.

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 18, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Referring to my telegram of current date in regard to uncurrent subsidiary silver coin, shipped you from St. Louis, I have to state for your information, that this coin cannot be melted until an appropriation has been made to pay for the loss on the recoinage of the same. The Deficiency Bill is now pending in the Senate. It contains an appropriation for the loss on recoinage of uncurrent silver coin in the Treasury, but until this has passed Congress, the coin cannot be melted.

You will therefore count and hold the

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same intact until you are instructed to melt it.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 18, 1897.

G. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
Carson, Nev.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, an account of the Central Pacific (Southern Pacific Company) Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of August 1896 from Ogden, Utah, to Reno, Nevada of Mint supplies, amounting to $14.29 consigned to your care, from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of your Mint, fiscal year 1897.

Duplicate B/L herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

May 18, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

Please forward statement of gold bars exchanged for gold coin during the calendar year 1896.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 18, 1897.

W. E. Morgan, Esq.,
Coiner, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

My dear Morgan:

I have received your letter of the 17th, in reference to striking a medal for Gov. Daggett. While I would be glad to do so, still I do not think there is any law for it, and I believe that we had better confine ourselves to what is authorized by the law.

Yours very truly,
R. E. Preston.

May 18, 1897.

J. D. Drinnan, Esq.,
Medicine Hut, Canada.

Sir:

Your letter of the 12th instant, transmitting a small amount of gold bullion has been received and forwarded to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia who will return you the value of the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 18, 1897.

Rev. John F. Hurst,
No. 1701 Massachusetts Avenue,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, enclosing the letter

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of Bishop McCabe and concurring in his indorsement of Miss Rose B. Swindells for a position in the Mint at Philadelphia, and I have referred the same to the Superintendent of that Institution to whom the law vests all appointments and which are now also subject to the Civil Service Rules.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 18, 1897.

W. H. Singleton, Esq.,
Attorney at Law,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The memorandum of Mr. Edward C. Brice, in reference to his process for creating gold and silver from base metals, as well as your letter of the 13th instant were duly received.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 18, 1897.

F. Winkler, Esq.,
No. 504 Minnesota Avenue,
Kansas City, Kansas.

Sir:

I have this day received by Adams Express Company gold bullion resulting from the melting of gold jewelry evidently. I have forwarded the same by Express to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, who will remit you the proceeds.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston, Director, Mint.

May 19, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Eighty-three Thousand Nine Hundred and Nineteen $\frac{22}{100}$ Dollars ($83,919.22) in Gold Coin, and Seven Hundred and Eighty-six $\frac{63}{100}$ Dollars ($786.63) in Silver Coin, making a total of Eighty-four Thousand Seven Hundred and Five $\frac{85}{100}$ Dollars ($84,705.85) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver as shown by Memorandum No. 63, dated May 15, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 19, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Bullion accounts of the Superintendent of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia, Pa. for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts forwarded April 26, 1897.
" received " 26 1897.

Similar letters except as noted, to same address: over.

+ + + Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts + Assayer + Assay Office at Helena, Montana + Month + April 30, 1897 + + + Accounts sent May 3, 1897,
" recd " 8, 1897.

+ + + Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts + Assayer + Assay Office at St. Louis + Month + April 30, 1897 + + + Accounts sent May 3, 1897.
" recd " 6, 1897.

May 19, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 63, dated May 15, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 63, dated May 11, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $84,898.38; charges $192.53, and net value $84,705.85. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 19, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department, for examination and settlement, your Bullion accounts for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, with my approval. Your attention is respectfully invited to several Gold deposits during this Quarter (between 90 & 100 nearly all of which were made by one person), in which the fineness of Silver predominates and, therefore, should be classed as Deposits of Silver Bullion:- Art. 1, Sec. 3, "Instructions and Regulations."

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U.S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

\+ + + Salary, Wages
+ Contingent expense + Month + April 30, 1897. +

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U.S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

\+ + + Salary, Wages
+ Contingent expense + Month
+ April 30, 1897 + + +

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May 19, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins reserved at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Half Eagles	,	Del. 99	, 10.00
2 Quar. Dollars	,	" 62	, .50
Total	,		, $10.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. L. Dollars	,	Del. 164	, 2.00
Total	,		, $2.00

May 19, 1897.

Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find copy of a letter addressed by the Assistant Treasurer at New York to the Secretary of the Treasury recommending that hereafter all checks issued by you have stamped upon them "Payable only by Treasurer, U. S. Washington, D. C. if not collected within 10 days from date."

The recommendation of the Assistant Treasurer

has been approved by the Secretary of the Treasury, and referred to this Bureau with instructions to have the same carried into effect. You will, without delay, procure a small rubber stamp, and will stamp all checks issued by you in payment of deposits as requested. It is very desirable that you should be particular at first, to call the attention of parties to the checks so issued with these requirements.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 19, 1897.

Otis F. Cato, Esq.,
Ft. Monroe, Virginia.

Sir:

Your letter of the 14th instant to the Comptroller of the Treasury has been referred to this Bureau. In reply you are respectfully informed that no fifty dollar gold pieces were ever coined by the Mints of the United States.

Prior to the establishment of the Mint at San Francisco, private Assayers in that city, issued discs, octagonal and round in shape, of the value of fifty dollars. These bore the imprint of the Assayer, guaranteeing the weight and fineness, but anyone receiving them, did so at their own risk.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 19, 1897.

Mrs. L. Dodd,
Bloomfield, Stoddard Co., Mo.

Madam:

The small piece of metal enclosed in your letter of the 15th instant is lead, and is returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 20, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:-

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of One Hundred and Five Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-eight $\frac{33}{100}$ Dollars ($105,788.33) in Gold Coin, and Three Hundred and Ninety-five $\frac{38}{100}$ Dollars ($395.38) in Silver Coin, making a total of One Hundred and Six Thousand, One Hundred and Eighty-three $\frac{71}{100}$ Dollars ($106,183.71) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver as shown by Memorandum No. 64, dated May 17, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + Assay Office at Boise

+ Mint at Philadelphia + Fourteen Thousand Four Hundred and Sixty-nine 92/100 + ($14,469.92) + One Hundred and Seventy-seven 30/100 + ($177.30) + total of Fourteen Thousand Six Hundred and Forty-seven 22/100 + ($14,647.22) + Bullion + Assay Office at Boise + Memorandum No. 39 + May 17, 1897 + +

May 20, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 64, dated May 17, 1897 of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 64, dated May 13, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $106,346.27; charges $162.36 and net value $106,183.71. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Deposit Memorandum No. 39 + May 17, 1897. + Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 39 + May 8, 1897 + + + + $14,689.63; + $42.41, + $14,647.22. + + + + +

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May 20, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Half Eagles	Del. 100 ,	10.00
Total ,	,	$10.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	Del. 28 ,	40.00
Total ,	,	$40.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 165 ,	2.00
Total ,	,	$2.00

May 20, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:-

Enclosed herewith find authority of the

Secretary of the Treasury for you to advertise in the Press and Tribune, inviting proposals for supplies that may be required by your office for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1898.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 20, 1897.

C. S. Adell, Esq.,
Postmaster, Dunn, Kansas.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 17th instant, you are respectfully informed that coin referred to was not in that condition when paid out from the Mint, as it is not probable a coin so imperfect would have escaped detection. In fact one of the first things done when the dies are placed in the press is to strike two or three pieces, for the purpose of ascertaining that they work properly.

I cannot give you any more positive information as to how the two heads appear on the coin without having the same for examination. If you will forward it to this Bureau by registered mail, it will be examined and returned to you or if found genuine, its value returned.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 20, 1897.

Thomas A. Davis, Esq.,
c/o Mrs. J. C. Houghtow,
Ogdensburg, New York.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 17th instant, you are respectfully informed that seigniorage, as applied to the silver coins of the United States, is the difference between the cost of the silver contained in such coins and their face value. For instance, the average cost of the silver bullion, purchased under the Act of July 14th, 1890, was $0.92,44 per ounce fine. At this rate the cost of the silver contained in a dollar (371 1/4 grains) would be ($0.71 1/2) giving a seigniorage or profit on each dollar coined of $0.28 1/2. The first seigniorage, arising from the coinage of silver was on the subsidiary silver coin authorized by the Act of February 21, 1853, when the weight of the half-dollar, quarter dollar and dime were reduced about seven percent, and in which it was provided that the coinage of these pieces should be on Government account, from bullion purchased for that purpose.

I am unable without examining the old accounts for a series of years to determine the date of the first payment of seigniorage into the Treasury. The letter enclosed by you is returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 20, 1897.

Charles D. Walcott, Esq.,
Director, Geological Survey,
#1330 "F." Street, N. W. (Hooe Building),
City

Sir:-

I enclose herewith, for your information, copy of a letter from Mr. Chas. G. Gale, Statistician, in relation to changes in the figures of the product of gold in Alaska, for the calendar year 1896.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Copy.

May 14, 1897

Hon. R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In the recapitulation sheet of Alaska, sent you, please omit the section of Hunter Bay, and add the amount $16,000, to that from Admiralty, Douglas and Unga Island, as Hunter Bay is on Admiralty Island.

The reason of the grouping of the three islands is that the Apollo Cons. Mine is the only one on Unga Island, and the amount of product would be naturally credited to that Company. The owners here in San Francisco prefer that the amount of their product shall not be made public.

Very respectfully,
Chas. G. Gale,
Statistician.

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May 21, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages & Contingent Expense accounts of the Assayer in charge of the U. S. Assay Office at Charlotte N. C. for the month ending April 30, 1897 rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent May 7, 1897.
" recd " 10, 1897.

May 21, 1897.

W. E. Audrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary, Wages and Contingent expense accounts for the month ending April 30, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 21, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quar. Dollars	Del 63	.50
Total		$ .50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 21, 1897.

Telegram Confirmed

Superintendent, U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Secretary anxious to have letter covering discharge of old soldiers; when can we expect it?

R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 21, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, two accounts of the Union Pacific and Missouri River Bridge Railway Co. for the transportation in the Month of January 1897, from Council Bluffs to Ogden, Utah of one Coin Riddle

& 20 casks of Ingot Copper, amounting to $89.41 consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent expenses of your Mint fiscal year 1897.

Duplicate B/L will be found herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

May 21, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have to advise you that the bond of Henry Brady, as Melter of your Mint was yesterday approved by the Secretary of the Treasury in the penal sum of $10,000.

His Commission has this day been forwarded to him by registered mail and I will be pleased if you will so inform him, as his house address is no where filed that can be learned.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

May 21, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise City, Idaho.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the — Certificate of Deposit No. 361, for $167.50, being on

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account of Bullion Assays, period ending May 14, 1897, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to his office.

No personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts, and the amount covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 21, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Company,
Waterbury, Connecticut.

Sirs:

I send you per registered mail to day a box containing medals of award of the World's Columbian Exposition, returned to this Bureau for correction.

I will thank you to cause new medals to be struck with the names placed upon the same as per following list:

Name as Printed.	Correct Name.
L. Goosey	W. L. Goosey.
Hadji Efriam Benget	Hadji Ephraim Benguiat.
Hadji Ephraim Benjamin	Hadji Ephraim Benguiat.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 22, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer

be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Boise, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred and Seventy-five $\frac{81}{100}$ Dollars ($16,475.81) in Gold Coin, and Forty-three $\frac{33}{100}$ Dollars ($43.33) in Gold Coin, making a total of Sixteen Thousand Five Hundred and Nineteen $\frac{14}{100}$ Dollars ($16,519.14) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Boise, as shown by Memorandum No. 40, dated May 20, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 22, 1897.

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 40, dated May 20, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 40 dated May 14, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $16,556.53; charges $37.39, and net value $16,519.14. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 22, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Months of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 166	2.00
Total		$ 2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 24, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of Thirty-three Thousand Four Hundred and Seventy-seven $\frac{37}{100}$ Dollars ($33,477.37) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred and Thirteen $\frac{40}{100}$ Dollars ($113.40) in Silver Coin, making a total of Thirty-three Thousand Five Hundred and Ninety $\frac{77}{100}$ Dollars ($33,590.77) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 41, dated May 20, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 24, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver be increased in the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money, and that the same be placed to the credit of Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:

\+ + + Assay Office at Charlotte
\+ Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000.-)
\+ + lawful money + +
Assayer, + + Assistant Treasurer + New York.

May 24, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

Referring to the reference made by you to this Bureau of the appeal of John C. Hunterson et al., in behalf of sixty veterans removed from the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia by Eugene Townsend, late Superintendent, and whose reinstatement is asked for, I have the honor to state that the petition was referred to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, and I enclose herewith a copy of his reply, from which

it appears that the present Superintendent is in no wise responsible for the removals.

I also enclose herewith a list of the removals of veterans made by O. C. Bosbyshell and Eugene Townsend, late Superintendents, and a list of the number of veterans now employed in the Mint at Philadelphia and the compensation paid them.

I would add that it is the policy of the present Superintendent, when vacancies occur, everything else being equal, to give soldiers the preference.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 24, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 41, dated May 20, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 41 dated May 15, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $33,676.59; charges $85.82, and net value $33,590.77. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 24, 1897.

W. J. Puchett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars ($300,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

+ + + Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000.-) + your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York.

May 24, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I return herewith, two samples of graulation cards forwarded with your requisition of the 21st instant, for the reason that no form number appears thereon, as instructed in my letter of recent date.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 24, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for specie assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quar Eagles	,	Del. 102	, 5.00
2 Quar Dollars	,	" 64	, .50
Total	,		, $5.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars		Del. 84	, 2.00
Total	,		, $2.00

May 24, 1897.

Alfred B. Shelpherson, Esq.
Cotton Exchange Building,
Hanover Square, New York, N.Y.

Sir:

In compliance with your letter of the 21st instant, I enclose herewith statement showing the price of fine bar silver in New York on each Saturday from October tenth, 1896 to May twenty-second, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

over.

New York Quotations of Fine Bar Silver.

Date.		Price per ounce fine.
1896.	Oct. 10	$0.66
	Oct. 17	.66 1/2
	Oct. 24	.66 1/2
	Oct. 31	.66
	Nov. 7	.66 1/4
	Nov. 14	.66
	Nov. 21	.66
	Nov. 28	.66 1/4
	Dec. 4	.66 1/4
	Dec. 12	.66 1/2
	Dec. 19	.66 1/2
	Dec. 26	.66 1/2
1897.	Jan. 2	.66
	Jan. 9	.66
	Jan. 16	.66
	Jan. 23	.66
	Jan. 30	.65 3/4
	Feb. 6	.66
	Feb. 13	.66
	Feb. 20	.66
	Feb. 27	.66
	March 6	.65 1/8
	March 13	.64 1/2
	March 20	.63 1/2
	March 27	.63 1/2
	April 3	.63
	April 10	.63
	April 17	.63
	April 24	.62 3/4
	May 1	.62 1/2
	May 8	.61 1/2
	May 15	.62 1/4
	May 22	.61 1/4

May 24, 1897.

S. J. Chandler, Esq.,
No 1916 East Main Street,
Richmond, Virginia

Sir:-

Your letter of the 22nd instant, enclosing twenty-five and ten cents in fractional currency has been received, and referred to the Treasurer of the United States.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 24, 1897.

S. A. Burney, Esq.,
Evant, Coryell Co., Texas.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 17th instant, you are respectfully informed that you choose to melt a silver dollar it would be no crime, but it would be a crime if you were to mutilate it in any way or attempt to pass it if mutilated. See copy of law enclosed herewith.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 24, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of the report of the Committee designated to make an examination and exhaustive test of the process claimed by Mr. Edward C. Brice

for "creating gold and silver from the base metals, such as lead, tin and antimony," as requested by the Secretary of the Interior in his letter of the 27th ultimo. In order to comply with your letter of the 5th instant, directing that the test be a thoroughly scientific one, Mr. Andrew Mason, Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York, Dr. D. K. Tuttle, Melter & Refiner of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia and Mr. Cabell Whitehead, Assayer, Bureau of the Mint were designated to make the test and examination. Nearly three weeks were spent by these gentlemen in this examination in order to make the same complete.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 25, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 24th instant requesting authority to purchase two (2) Schenks swinging fire hose reels and one hundred (100) feet of 1½ inch twilled cotton hose, rubber lined, with necessary valves, couplings and attachments, and three hundred (300) feet of Eureka brand cotton hose, also rubber lined and of same size, with six (6) pairs of couplings. You are hereby authorized to make the purchase at a price not exceeding the amount mentioned in your letter, $143.50.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

May 25, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent, U.S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have submitted your letter of the 18th instant in which you requested to be given authority to coin 600,000 standard silver dollars, to the Secretary of the Treasury, and with his consent you are hereby authorized to coin that amount in standard silver dollars during the month of June.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 25, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Half Dollars	Del. 65	.50
Total		$.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 85	2.00
Total		$2.00

May 25, 1897.

Hon. Benjamin Butterworth,
Commissioner of Patents.

Sir:

Your letter of the 24th instant to the Secretary of the Treasury has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply I would respectfully state that a copy of the report of the Commission who investigated the process of Mr. Edward C. Brice for the "creation of gold and silver from the base metals" has this day been forwarded to the Secretary of the Interior.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 25, 1897.

Mrs. M. V. Cowan,
Corona, Alabama.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 20th instant, you are respectfully informed that it is not at all likely that you would receive twenty dollars in return for a gold ring that cost that amount, if deposited at one of the Mints of the United States.

It is probable you would receive from ten to twelve dollars only. You could forward the ring to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia who would return you its coining value whatever sum that might be.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 25, 1897.

Rev. John F. Hurst,
No. 1701 Massachusetts Avenue,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 24th instant enclosing an additional recommendation for a position in the Mint at Philadelphia from Bishops Mallalieu, Vincent and Foss has been received and the same forwarded to the Superintendent of that Institution.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 25, 1897.

David Newport, Esq.,
Willow Grove, Montgomery Co., Pa.

Sir:

In reply to your letter, you are respectfully informed that the silver coined during the months of March and April has been as follows:

Silver dollars	$2,800,250.
Subsidiary silver	352,403.50
	$3,152,653.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 25, 1897.

A. D. Thomas, Esq.,
Lima, Ohio.

Sir:

Your letter of the 19th instant to the Comptroller of the Currency has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply I send you

herewith copy of Department Circular No. 123, and would respectfully refer you to pages 47-57 of the same for the information requested. I am unable to tell you the number of silver dollars coined in 1894, in circulation at the present time.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 26, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of One Hundred and Seven Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-seven $\frac{81}{100}$ Dollars, ($107,897.81) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Seventy-six $\frac{53}{100}$ Dollars ($276.53) in Silver Coin, making a total of One Hundred and Eight Thousand One Hundred and Seventy-four $\frac{34}{100}$ Dollars ($108,174.34) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 65 dated May 22, 1897 of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 26, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 65, dated May 22, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 65 dated May 18, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $108,389.32; charges $214.98, and net value $108,174.34. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 26, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I return herewith duplicate memorandum of bullion shipment No. 60 from Denver Mint, dated May 22, 1897, enclosed with the copy for this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 26, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quar. Dollars	,	Del. 66	, .50
2 Half Dollars	,	" 67	, 1.00
Total	,		, $1.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, except as noted, to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 86	, 2.00
Total	,		, $2.00

Overton Cade, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 167	, 2.00
Total	,		, $2.00

May 26, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

I have approved and referred to the proper

Accounting Officers of the Treasury for examination and settlement, an account of the C. B. & Q Railway Co., for the transportation in the Month of January 1897, from Chicago to Council Bluffs of a Coin Riddle amounting to $17.95 consigned to your care, payable from the appropriation for Contingent expenses of your Mint for the fiscal year 1897.

Duplicate B/L herewith.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

May 26, 1897.

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

Sir:

Please forward Daily Statement for 15th inst., Statement of checks drawn #261C for that date received, but Form #250 (Daily Statement) not received.

Very respectfully,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 26, 1897.

Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Sir:

I am in receipt of a communication from Charles R. Dudley, Secretary of the Colorado Historical and Natural History Society, stating that the Society desire to procure the old machinery that belonged to the

private mint, established by Clark, Gruber & Co., in 1860. They state that this machinery is still stored in the building. I will thank you to inform me of what it consists and what it would probably sell for as old material.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 26, 1897.

Charles R. Dudley, Esq.,
Secy Colorado Historical & Natural History Society,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Your letter of the 22nd instant received, and I have written to the Assayer in charge of the Mint at Denver asking for information as to the old machinery referred to.

I would gladly consent that this old machinery be turned over to your society, if after an examination I find that it can be done lawfully; otherwise it will have to be sold as old material and will bring merely a nominal sum.

As soon as I hear from the Assayer in charge, I will communicate with you further.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 26, 1897.

H. Carrington Bolton, Esq.,
University Club, New York, N.Y.

Sir:

In compliance with your request I take great pleasure in forwarding you herewith a copy of the report of the Committee who were designated to test the alleged process of Edward C. Price "for creating gold and silver from the base metals."

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 26, 1897.

James B. Cadman, Esq.,
No. 945 So. Trumbull Street,
Chicago, Ills.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, you are respectfully informed that the total gold and silver coinage from January first to May first, 1897, was as follows:

Gold	40,526,720.
Silver Dollars	5,952,250.
Subsidiary Silver	685,597.15

The object in coining silver dollars is for the purpose of having a sufficient amount on hand to enable the Secretary of the Treasury to redeem any Notes issued for the purchase of silver bullion under the Act of July 14th 1890, that may be presented for redemption.

Of the silver purchased under the Act of July 14th 1890, there were on hand May

1st 1897, 117,662,173 fine ounces, costing $106,303,562; coining value of the same in silver dollars being $152,128,870.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 26, 1897.

Hugh O'Farrell, Esq.,
Cortico Row, Germantown,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 10th instant to the Secretary of the Treasury has been referred to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, together with the endorsement of Hon. A. C. Harmen.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 26, 1897.

A. F. Pierce, Esq.,
Rooms 304-9, American Bank Building,
Kansas City, Missouri.

Sir:

Your letter of the 17th instant has been received and I have referred the same to the Secretary of the Treasury for reply as to the manner in which the bonds issued in payment of the Louisiana Purchase were paid, as this office has no means of knowing. It is however, probable that these bonds were paid at maturity

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in silver coins, as silver was standard at the time.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 27, 1897.

E. P. Baldwin, Esq.,
Auditor for the Treasury Department.

Sirs:

On the adjustment of the account of Thomas J. Hobbs, Disbursing Clerk for contingent expenses, office of the Director of the Mint, 1897, from December 1st 1896 to March 31st 1897, the following suspension was made:

Amount paid D. K. Tuttle, "preparing the article descriptive of the chlorination and cyanide process for extracting the precious metals in parting and refining bullion, for the report of the Director of the Mint on the production of gold and silver, voucher six, December 1, 1896. ——— $100.-

The ground for the suspension of this item appears to be due to the fact that Mr. Tuttle is a salaried officer of the Government (Melter & Refiner of the Mint of the U. S. at Philadelphia), and therefore the payment is in violation of Section 1765, Revised Statutes of the United States.

In explanation I would say that the preparation of this article was entirely foreign and had no connection whatever, with Mr. Tuttle's official duties as Melter and Refiner.

The Director of the Mint prepares and publishes for each calendar year, a report on the production of the precious metals,

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and it was for this report the article in question was prepared by Dr. Tuttle. The improvements in the extraction of the precious metals by the Cyanide and Chlorination processes have attracted much attention within the last four years and many inquiries have been received by the Bureau of the Mint for information in regard to the same. With a view to furnishing intelligent information on the subject the article was prepared. Before employing Dr. Tuttle, four different parties were asked to prepare an article of this character and the compensation demanded ranged from $250. to $400. It was only after much importuning that Dr. Tuttle consented to prepare the article and then with the understanding that he was to receive a compensation of $100.

In view of the fact that the preparation of this article could in no sense be considered as a part of Dr. Tuttle's duties as Melter & Refiner of the Mint, it being prepared by him outside of office hours at his own residence, I trust that the same will be allowed in the account of the Disbursing officer.

The appropriation for the collection of mining statistics expressly stipulates that the same is to be disbursed upon the approval of the Director of the Mint. This, however, would be no excuse for his authorizing payment if he did not conceive it to be proper.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 27, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I enclose herewith notice received from the Postmaster at Philadelphia, package registered mail, which is held for me.

I have no doubt that this is intended for your Mint. You will please obtain the package from the Postmaster, and if upon examination you find it not to be for you, you can forward the same to this office.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 27, 1897.

W. W. Foulkrod, Esq.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 26th instant received, in reply you are respectfully informed that I have this day authorized the Superintendent of the Mint in your City, to manufacture the medals desired, charging for the bullion only, contained in the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 27, 1897.

Hon. E. O. Leech,
National Union Bank,
No 32 Nassau Street, New York.

My dear Mr. Leech:

In reply to your letters of the 17th and 26th instant, I would say that the statements you refer to, as published in the Secretary's report for 1890, have not been compiled since that date.

On September 1893, the Comptroller of the Treasury rendered a decision that the gross profits on the coinage of silver bullion purchased under the Act of July fourteenth, 1890, must be paid into the Treasury without deduction. Since that date no bills for the transportation of silver dollars for the Mints have been paid from the Silver Profit Fund, and no record has been kept in the Treasury Department showing whether the amount paid for the transportation of silver coin was on dollars or subsidiary silver.

I regret that I am unable to give you the information you wish.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 27, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during

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the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Eagles	Del. 103	10.00
	Total	$10.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 28, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of One Hundred Thousand Seven Hundred and Forty-six $\frac{96}{100}$ Dollars ($100,746.96) in Gold Coin, and Ninety-nine $\frac{53}{100}$ Dollars ($99.53) in Silver Coin, making a total of One Hundred Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-six $\frac{49}{100}$ Dollars ($100,846.49) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 66 dated May 25, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 28, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith for examination and settlement, the Bullion accounts of the

Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment as required by law.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts Forwarded April 28, 1897.
" received " 29, 1897.

May 28, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 66, dated May 25, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 66 dated May 21, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $100,948.57; charges $102.08, and net value $100,846.49. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 28, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination

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and settlement your Bullion accounts for the Quarter ending March 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

May 28, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2	Dimes	Del. 68	.20
	Total		$ .20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2	Double Eagles	Del. 29	40.00
	Total		$40.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

2	S. S. Dollars	Del. 168	2.00
	Total		$2.00

May 28, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You are authorized to purchase from the Scovill Manufacturing Company of Waterbury, Connecticut, the following amount of metal for the re-coinage of minor coins:

0.2895 lbs. Tin @ .13¢ lb.	.04
0.2895 lbs. Zinc @ .04¢ lb.	.01
27.313 lbs. Nickel @ .40¢ lb.	10.88
Total	$ 10.93

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 28, 1897.

Christian Koerner, Esq.,
Editor of the Germania,
No. 286 and 288 West Water Street,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 25th instant I forward you by to-day's mail, copy of Department Circular No. 123. For the ratio of gold and silver coined in France, you are respectfully referred to page 26.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 28, 1897.

W. D. Lynn, Esq.,
Canfield, Ohio.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 25th instant, you are respectfully informed that the Government issues no publication giving a description of various varieties of each denomination of coin that has been struck at the mints.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 28, 1897.

W. L. Maraman, Esq.,
Sullivan, Union Co.,
Kentucky.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 25th instant, with enclosure received, in reply you are respectfully informed that the coin enclosed by you is a United States cent, composed of copper and nickel. The coinage of these pieces was authorized by the Act of February 21, 1857, and discontinued by the Act of April 22, 1864, there were over $2,000,000 of these pieces coined. The piece you enclose has had one side ground off. The Government does not redeem coins mutilated in this way.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 28, 1897.

Asa Pullen, Esq.,
Ft. McKavett, Texas.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 22nd instant enclosing money order for two dollars ($2.) with the request that an assay be made of the sample of ore transmitted under separate cover, has been received. I return you the sample of ore by today's mail. You will find enclosed herewith the money order referred to. Assays of ores are not made in the Laboratory of this Bureau, but are made at the United States Assay Office at Charlotte, North Carolina, at a charge of three dollars for each assay.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 28, 1897.

R. P. Rothwell, Esq.,
Editor Engineering and Mining Journal,
#253 Broadway,
New York City.

Sir:

I enclose herewith a statement of base bullion, silver lead ore, copper regulus etc. imported into the United States during the calendar year 1896, as requested in your letter of the 21st instant.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 28, 1897.

Scovill Manufacturing Co.,
Waterbury, Connecticut.

Gentlemen:

I send you per registered mail today a medal of award of the World's Columbian Exposition, returned to this Bureau for correction.

You will please cause a new medal to be struck as per the following, and forward the same to this Bureau as early as practicable.

Name as printed.	Correct Name.
Miss Eda A. W. Branthe,	Miss Eda A. W. Branth.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 28, 1897.

D. K. Tuttle, Esq.,
Melter & Refiner,
U. S. Mint, Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed please find check for $81.75 in payment of your bill for Traveling expenses in visiting this city and return to Philadelphia

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 29, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, to that of the

United States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of Forty Thousand Two Hundred and Forty-six 29/100 Dollars ($40,246.29) in Gold Coin, and Four Hundred and Ten 36/100 Dollars ($410.36) in Silver Coin, making a total of Forty Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty-six 65/100 Dollars ($40,656.65) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Assay Office at Helena, as shown by Memorandum No. 42, dated May 29, 1897 of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 29, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

With much regret I have to inform you of the death of Frank F. Claussen, Assayer of the Mint of the United States at New Orleans, which occurred on the night of the 28th instant.

Pending the appointment of his successor by the President, W. M. Lynch has been designated by the Superintendent, with my approval, to act as Assayer. Mr. Lynch being the Assistant Assayer is thoroughly competent to perform the duties.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 29, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 42, dated May 27, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia Shipment No. 42 dated May 22, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $40,765.02; charges $108.37, and net value $40,656.65. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 29, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of May, 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Eagles	,	Del 104	, 20.00
2 Half Dollars	,	" 69	, 1.00
	Total		, $21.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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May 29, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

As requested in your letter of the 28th instant, you are authorized to purchase five thousand (5,000) pounds additional five cent nickel blanks at .31,94 per pound, present contract price.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

May 29, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

In order to complete the records in the case, I will thank you to furnish this office with a copy of the notes taken by you while making the Brice test.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 1, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith find account of the United States Express Company for transportating 7,669,000 silver dollars from the Mint to the Post Office vaults

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for storage, amounting to $1,917.25 which sum is payable from the appropriation for storage of silver bullion purchased and silver dollars coined under the Act of July 14, 1890.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 1, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Eagles	Del. 105	20.00
2 Quar. Dollars	" 70	.50
Total		$20.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

6 S. S. Dollars	Dels. 88, 89 & 90	6.00
Total		$6.00

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars	Del. 169	2.00
Total		$2.00

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June 1, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of May, 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.
+ + April & May 1897. +

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.
+ + April & May 1897 +

June 1, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 28th ultimo, respecting error in the number of blank forms sent you, I would state that the information contained in my letter

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of the 25th of last month was furnished by the Treasurer U.S. who claims that 1000 copies of Form 523 were shipped your mint on the 12th of January last.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 1, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I return herewith your Stationery requisition for amendment.

Sample of envelope No. 10 3/8 should be enclosed and inventory of stock on hand should be stated.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 1, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

Your letter of the 25th ultimo, enclosing bond of indemnity for lost check to the amount of $383.64 has been received, and forwarded to the Secretary of the Treasury for such action as may be necessary.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 1, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 27th ultimo, in reference to a discarded cupel molding machine, I have to request that you will cause the same to be boxed, and delivered to the Quartermaster of the United States Army for shipment to the Mint at Denver, Colorado.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 1, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Sir:-

Referring to your letter of the 12th ultimo in reference to a discarded cupel molding machine at New York Assay Office, you are respectfully informed that I have this day directed its shipment to you, through the Quartermaster of the Army at New York.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 1, 1897.

To the
Quartermaster United States Army,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Superintendent

of the United States Assay Office at New York to pack and deliver to you, one cupel molding machine for shipment to the Mint at Denver, Colorado, which I will thank you to receive and forward.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 1, 1897.

Hon. Benjamin Butterworth,
Commissioner of Patents,
United States Patent Office,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I return herewith the protest of W. H. Singleton, attorney for E. C. Brice, against the report of the Commission which recently investigated Brice's process for creating gold and silver from base metals, with the statement that the Commission will take no further notice of Mr. Brice's process.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 1, 1897.

Hon. E. O. Leech,
National Union Bank,
No. 32 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y.

Sir:

Your letter of the 28th ultimo received, and in reply I enclose herewith Department Circular No. 162, which will give you the desired information in regard to the

issue and redemption of currency.

In reply to your second and third questions, I have to state that the expense of transporting silver coin is paid from a specific appropriation made by Congress.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 1, 1897.

R. P. Rothwell, Esq.,
Editor of "The Engineering & Mining Journal",
No. 253 Broadway, New York, N.Y.

Sir:

I have received your letter of the 29th ultimo, and thank you for the same. I am inclined to think there is little gold or silver that goes through the Custom House either in ore or bullion, but what we get a record of, and ascertain its value.

In your statement of the production of gold and silver in the United States for 1896, as published in your Journal of the 29th ultimo, you state the production of gold to have been $58,660,637, and of silver 58,222,323 fine ounces. According to the figures prepared in this Bureau the production of gold in 1896 approximates closely $53,000,000 and of silver 57,700,000 fine ounces. We have returns from every private smelting and refining establishment in the United States, giving their product from domestic as well as foreign ores, also showing the disposition of same. In addition to this we have complete accounts of the foreign

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and domestic bullion deposited at the Mints and Assay Offices which goes to complete the figures given above.

I feel confident our figures are approximately correct.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 1, 1897.

Walter H. Snyder, Esq.,
Farmers' and Mechanics National Bank,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 25th ultimo, in reference to the re-instatement in the Mint at Philadelphia of Mr. Alfred Thwaites, has been referred to this Bureau, and I have forwarded the same to the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 2, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of Ninety-nine Thousand and Seventy-nine $\frac{38}{100}$ Dollars ($99,079.38) in Gold Coin, and Three Hundred and Eleven Dollars ($311.00) in Silver Coin, making a total

of Ninety-nine Thousand Three Hundred and and Ninety $\frac{38}{100}$ Dollars ($99,390.38) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver as shown by Memorandum No. 67, dated May 28, 1897 of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + Assay Office at Boise + Mint at Philadelphia + Thirty-nine Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy-nine $\frac{03}{100}$ + ($39,679.03) + Three Hundred and Four $\frac{77}{100}$ + ($304.77) + + Thirty-nine Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-three $\frac{80}{100}$ + ($39,983.80) + (Assayer, J. W. Cunningham) + Assay Office at Boise + Memorandum No 1, + May 28, 1897 + + +

June 2, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 67, dated May 28, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 67, dated May 22, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $99,569.27; charges $178.89, and net value $99,390.38. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund

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of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted to:-

J. W. Cunningham, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

Deposit Memorandum No. 1 + May 28, 1897 + Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 1 + May 22, 1897. + + + + $40,096.02; + $112.22 + $39,983.80. + + + + +

June 2, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Month of June 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Eagles	,	Del. 106	, 20.00
2 Half Dollars	,	" 71	, 1.00
2 Dimes	,	" 72	, .20
Total	,		, $21.20

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 2, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of June 1897, has been approved for the sum of $11,554.46, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Office, during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897.	$1,600.
Wages of Workmen,	1897.	1000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897.	954.46
Parting & Refining Bullion —		8,000.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-
W. J. Puchett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

\+ + + June 1897 +
\+ + $1,950.00 + +

Salaries,	1897.	$ 550.
Wages of Workmen,	1897.	1000.
Contingent Expenses,	1897.	400.

June 2, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I have this day made requisition on the Public Printer for 2000 copies of

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Form No. 274, Coiner's bullion operations, and as requested in your letter (Mac L) of the 1st instant have requested that the same be made special.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 2, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter requesting that an iron grating door be placed in front of the rotunda of the Mint, has been referred to the Supervising Architect, who has promised that he will cause this door to be erected.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 2, 1897.

Superintendent Mint,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Telegram Confirmed

Charge for silver in medals for delegates to commercial convention at the rate of seventy cents per fine ounce. This will cover cost of silver, also loss in manufacture. Letter by mail.

R. E. Preston,
Director, Mint.

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June 2, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to my telegram of current date, in reference to the price to be charged for the silver in the medals for delegates to the commercial convention, I would say that I find upon examination that the silver you have on hand, purchased for subsidiary silver coinage cost .669+ per fine ounce, and I thought it nothing more than fair to add to this rate an amount sufficient to cover the loss in manufacture, for this reason I fixed the price to be paid at seventy cents (.70¢) per ounce fine.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 2, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

If practicable it is my desire that the count and annual settlement at the respective Mints and Assay Offices be completed by the 30th instant, or as soon thereafter as possible, and I will thank you to take steps to secure this result.

Please inform me as early as practicable,

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at what date you will be ready for the persons who may be designated to represent this Bureau, to commence the weighing and counting of the bullion and coin on hand.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
New Orleans, La.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent U.S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

June 2, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Superintendent U.S. Assay Office,
New York, N.Y.

Sir:

In accordance with the information contained in your letter of the 29th ult., Certificate of Deposit No 1846 for $92.00 being on account of Special Assays, has been received from the Secretary of the Treasury, properly indorsed and returned to this office.

No personal credit to be given you in your Bullion accounts and

the amount to be covered into the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 1847 for $222.04 + Sale of By-products + + No personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

Similar letters except as noted, to:

F. F. Church, Esq.,
Late Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 369 for $137.45 + Melting, Assaying & Stamping Charges + personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 369 for $29.94 + D. M. Room Sweeps + personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 369 for $486.44 + Grains recovered from ashes, D M. Room + personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 369 for $331.05 + Gain in Assays + + personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

+ + Certificate of Deposit No. 369 for $455.67 + Gain in Charges + personal credit + Bullion + miscellaneous receipt.

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June 2, 1897.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Mint,
Carson, Nevada.

Sir:

I return herewith for additional information sample "O" to which you should attach the paper stub and also sample "5" which appears to be from an old book made 20 years ago. Sample from the last book or blanks received from the Department should always be forwarded.

Your stationery requisition is also returned to enable you to insert the name of the type writer for which the ribbons are intended and to include thereon one large press copying book, on the sample of which you will state the use for which this book is intended.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 2, 1897.

J. P. Beard, Esq.,
Amherst, Virginia.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 1st instant, you are respectfully informed that the Government publishes no catalogue of, nor pays any premium for coins.

You are evidently in error as to having a one cent piece, bearing the profile of Washington and dated 1723, as you will remember that Washington was not born until 1732. The first pieces bearing the

head of Washington and which were struck by private individuals, bear the date of 1783.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 2, 1897.

C. St. John Cole, Esq.,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 24th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that on March 1st 1894 the House of Representatives passed a bill providing that the Secretary of the Treasury should issue in silver certificates $55,156,680 which would represent the gain or seigniorage that would accrue from the coinage of the silver bullion purchased under the Act of July 14, 1890, then on hand. This bill was passed by the Senate on March 15th. On March 30th the President vetoed the same.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 2, 1897.

H. S. Lawrence, Esq.,
504 West 10th Street,
Topeka, Kansas.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 29th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that the Government does not publish any catalogue of, nor pay a premium for any coins. In order to ascertain the premium, if any,

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on the half dollar bearing the date of 1860, you will have to make application to some coin dealer or numismatist.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 3, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage.
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver, to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia of the sum of Ninety-two Thousand and Seventy-one $\frac{90}{100}$ Dollars ($92,071.90) in Gold Coin, and Three Hundred and Fifty-three $\frac{17}{100}$ Dollars ($353.17) in Silver Coin, making a total of Ninety-two Thousand Four Hundred and Twenty-five $\frac{07}{100}$ Dollars ($92,425.07) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 68, dated May 31, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 3, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint

at Denver, be increased in the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:-

+ + + Assay Office at Boise + increased + One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000.-) + lawful money + + Assayer in charge + as follows, viz: $50,000.- with Asst. Tr. U.S. at Chicago, and 50,000.- with Asst. Tr. U.S. at San Francisco, by wire.

June 3, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U.S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 68, dated May 31, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 68, dated May 25, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $92,581.97; charges $156.90, and net value $92,425.07. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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June 3, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:-

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars $500,000.- and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter, except as noted, to:-
J. W. Cunningham, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

+ + + One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000.-) + placed to your credit with Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago and San Francisco, each $50,000.- by wire.

June 3, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of June 1897, has been approved for the sum of $37,050.00, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your

Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries	1897	1,550.
Wages of Workmen	1897	25,000.
Contingent Expenses	1897	5,000.
Parting & Refining bullion	——	4,000.
Storage of Sil. Bullion (Act July 14, 1890)		1,500.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 3, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, received at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Quar. Dollars	Del. 73	.50
Total		$ .50

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	Del. 30	40.00
Total		$ 40.00

June 3, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 2nd instant enclosing bids for 130 barrels of Melter and Refiner's sweeps is at hand, and you are authorized to accept the bid of the Chicago and Aurora Smelting and Refining Company for the same viz: $9,700.

The bids are returned herewith.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 3, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

You will please have Mr. Barber go ahead with the medal as agreed upon by he and Mr. Hatcher yesterday, for Postal Congress.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 3, 1897.

J. B. Lippincott Company,
714-17 Market Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:-

In reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, you are respectfully informed

that according to information received by this Bureau, the product of gold in Alabama in 1896, was:-

Cleburne County ——	$ 701.
Tallapoosa County	3,696.
The balance of the State producing—	$ 2,097.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 4, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of One Hundred and One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-nine $\frac{63}{100}$ Dollars ($101,799.63) in Gold Coin, and One Hundred and Thirty-three $\frac{63}{100}$ Dollars ($133.63) in Silver Coin, making a total of One Hundred and One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty-three $\frac{26}{100}$ Dollars ($101,933.26) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 69, dated June 1, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 4, 1897.

W. J. Puchett, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Mint,
Denver, Colorado.

Sir: Deposit Memorandum No. 69, dated June 1, 1897,

of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 69 dated May 28, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $102,042.35; charges $109.09, and net value $101,933.26. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 4, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of June 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 Eagles	,	Del. 107	, 20.00
2 Quar Dollars	,	" 74	, .50
2 Half Dollars	,	" 75	, 1.00
Total	,		$21.50

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U.S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

2 Double Eagles	,	Del. 31	, 40.00
Total	,		$40.00

June 4, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month June 1897, has been approved for the sum of $5,954.38, payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$ 790.00
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	3,150.00
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	2014.38

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, except as noted, to the following:-

W. E. Ardrey, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Charlotte, N. C.

\+ + + June 1897 +
\+ + $316.60 + + +

Salaries,	1897,	$ 226.60
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	90.00

Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

\+ + June 1897 + $391.40 +

Salaries,	1897,	$ 247.20
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	82.40
Contingent Expense,	1897,	61.80

June 4, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I transmit herewith the Assayer's report upon assay coins taken from the first and two subsequent deliveries in each week at your Mint during the Month of May 1897, and forwarded for test as prescribed by the Regulations.

The coins were found to be within the legal limits of tolerance.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters, to the following:-

John Daggett, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

June 4, 1897.

Telegram confirmed

Assayer Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Five Hundred Thousand placed to your credit, Chicago today.

R. E. Preston,
Director.

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June 4, 1877.

J. H. Davie, Esq.,
No. 629 State Street,
Erie, Pennsa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 31st ultimo, in reference to new design for coins has been referred to this Bureau, and in reply you are respectfully informed that no action can be taken in the matter until Congress authorizes the change.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 4, 1877.

P. Hays, Esq.,
No. 504 Commercial Street,
Atchison, Kansas.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, I forward you by today's mail, a copy of Department Circular 123, and have marked pages which I think will answer your inquiries, and I also send you a copy of the Report of the Director of the Mint on the Production of Precious Metals in the United States for the calendar year 1875, and the fiscal report for the year ending June 30, 1876, in which I think you will find any additional information you may desire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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June 4, 1897.

R. J. Marsh, Esq.,
O'Neill, Nebraska,

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 28th ultimo, you are respectfully informed that the medal to which you refer is what is known as the Indian Peace medal, and was struck during the Presidency of James Madison.

It has been customary since the Presidency of Washington to strike these medals in silver, and present them to the principal chiefs of any tribe upon the conclusion of a treaty, and they always bore the likeness of the President in office at the time the treaty was made. Aside from this, they have been presented for some meritorious deed performed by some Indian.

The medal has little value aside from its bullion value as silver. The value depending entirely upon its condition.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 4, 1897.

J. D. Murphy, Esq.,
Care Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Your letter of the 2nd instant received, and I would say that shortly after Mr. McAleer spoke to me, & mentioned the matter to the Superintendent, and at that time he was of the opinion that it would not be advisable for you to be absent from

Philadelphia while the annual settlement was being made.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 4, 1897.

W. H. Rambo, Esq.,
Whig, Tennessee.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of the 31st ultimo, you are respectfully informed that assays of ores are made by the United States Assay Office at Charlotte, N. C., at a charge of $3.00 for each assay.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 4, 1897.

Eugene Young, Esq.,
No. 39 Broad Street,
Springfield, Mass.

Sir:-

Your letter of the 2nd instant received, and in reply I would say that I am satisfied that the means you propose for preventing counterfeiting would not affect that result.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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June 5, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a transfer be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at Denver to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia, of the sum of One Hundred and Twenty-seven Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty $\frac{30}{100}$ Dollars ($127,320.30) in Gold Coin, and Two Hundred and Thirty-nine $\frac{69}{100}$ Dollars ($239.69) in Silver Coin, making a total of One Hundred and Twenty-seven Thousand Five Hundred and Fifty-nine $\frac{99}{100}$ Dollars ($127,559.99) being the net value of Bullion heretofore forwarded by the Assayer in charge of the United States Mint at Denver, as shown by Memorandum No. 70, dated June 2, 1897, of Gold Bullion deposited at said Mint.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to same address:

\+ + + Assay Office at Helena + Mint at Philadelphia + + Twenty-eight Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty-one $\frac{56}{100}$ Dollars ($27,561.56) + Two Hundred and Thirty-one $\frac{96}{100}$ + ($231.96) + total of Twenty-eight Thousand Seven Hund and Ninety-three $\frac{52}{100}$ + ($28,793.52) + Assayer + Assay Office at Helena + Memorandum No 43 + June 3, 1897 + + +

June 5, 1897.

Hon. Lyman J. Gage,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the Bullion Fund of the United States Assay Office at Helena, be increased in the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars ($250,000.-) by a transfer of that amount in lawful money and that the same be placed to the credit of the Assayer in charge of said institution with the Assistant Treasurer U. S. at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 5, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause a transfer to be made from the Bullion Fund of the United States Mint at New Orleans to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of Two Thousand Dollars ($2,000.-) the same being the amount of Treasury Notes issued under the Act of July 14, 1890, received in exchange for silver dollars.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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June 5, 1897.

W. J. Puckett, Esq.,
Assayer, U.S. Mint,
Denver, Colo.

Sir:

Deposit Memorandum No. 70, dated June 2, 1897, of Gold Bullion forwarded by you to the United States Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 70 dated May 27, 1897, has been received and examined at this Bureau, and the gross value found to be $127,821.95; charges $261.96, and net value $127,559.99. For the latter amount a transfer has been requested from the bullion fund of your Institution to that of the United States Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted to:-

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Deposit Memorandum No. 43 + June 3, 1897
+ Mint at Philadelphia, Shipment No. 43
+ May 29, 1897 + + +
$28,868.89; + $75.37 + $28,793.52
+ + + + +

June 5, 1897.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

Sir:

I have requested that the Bullion Fund of your institution be increased by a transfer of Two Hundred and Fifty

Thousand Dollars ($250,000.-) and that the same be placed to your credit with the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago, by wire.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 5, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:-

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause a transfer to be made from the bullion fund of your Mint to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of two thousand dollars ($2,000.-) the same being the amount of Treasury notes received in exchange for silver dollars.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 5, 1897.

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have this day requested the Secretary of the Treasury to cause a transfer to be made from your bullion fund to the Treasury of the United States of the sum of two thousand dollars ($2,000.) the same being the amount

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of Treasury notes received in exchange for silver dollars.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 5, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

The following coins, reserved at your Mint during the Months of June 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:-

2 Half Dollars	Del. 76	1.00
Total		$1.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 5, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

In regard to the commencement of the weighing of the bullion and counting of the coins at your Mint on the 10th instant, I will thank you to inform me whether Mr. Cobb, the Register of Deposits would be willing, and could be spared from other duties, to represent this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 5, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Penna.

Sir:

I enclose herewith, for examination, a half dollar of the coinage of your Mint. The piece is about fifteen grains light. I will thank you to give me your opinion of this piece.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 5, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Salary, Wages, Contingent and Parting & Refinery expense Accounts with Abstracts and Vouchers for the month ending May 31, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
Guy Bryan, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
St. Louis, Mo.

+ + + Salary, Wages
+ Contingent expense + +
Month ending May 31, 1897.

June 5, 1897.

Messrs Einer & Amend,
205-211 3rd Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find Treasury draft for $72.17 in payment of your bill for Laboratory supplies furnished for the use of this Bureau.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

June 7, 1897.

To the Honorable
Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

Owing to the death of Mr. F. F. Claussen, a vacancy exists in the position of Assayer of the Mint of the United States at New Orleans. Mr. William M. Lynch, who has been the Assistant Assayer at that Institution since 1884, is an applicant for the appointment as Assayer.

I have known Mr. Lynch since 1874, and have no hesitancy in recommending his appointment to the position, as he is in every way qualified. He entered the Mint service as an assistant in the Assay Department of the Mint at Carson City, Nevada, in 1875, and continued there until 1884, when he was transferred and appointed Assistant Assayer of the Mint at New Orleans, solely on account of his qualifications. He is about forty-five or six years old.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

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June 7, 1897.

Auditor for the
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I transmit herewith, for examination and settlement, the Salary, Wages, Contingent and Refinery expense accounts, of the Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York for the month ending May 31, 1897, rendered to me for the purpose of adjustment, as required by law.

Respectfully Yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director.

Accounts sent June 3, 1897.
" recd " 5, 1897.

June 7, 1897.

Andrew Mason, Esq.,
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

I have examined and referred to the proper accounting officers of the Department for examination and settlement, your Salary Wages, Contingent and Refinery Expense accounts for the month ending May 31, 1897, with my approval.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

June 7, 1897.

Herman Kretz, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:- The following coins, received at your Mint during

the Month of June 1897, and forwarded to the Bureau of the Mint for special assay, have been received, viz:

2 S. S. Dollars	,	Del. 78	, 2.00
Total	,		, $2.00

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter except as noted, to:
Overton Cade, Esq.,
Superintendent Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

2 S. S. Dollars		Del. 171	, 2.00
Total	,		, $2.00

June 7, 1897.

John Daggett, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
San Francisco, Cal.

Sir:

Your requisition for funds to meet the expenses of your institution during the Month of June 1897, has been approved for the sum of $23,200.00 payable from the following appropriations made for the support of your Mint, during the current fiscal year, viz:

Salaries,	1897,	$ 3,200.
Wages,	1897,	17,000.
Contingent Expense,	1897,	300.
Parting & Refining bullion —		2,500.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letters except as noted, to the following:

over.

J. W. Adams, Esq.,
Supt. Mint U. S.,
Carson, Nevada.

June 1897

$4,000.

Salaries,	1897,	$1,500.
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	1,200.
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	800.
Parting & Refining bullion	—	500.

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer, U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

June 1897

$500.08

Salaries,	1897,	
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	$100.00
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	400.08

J. W. Cunningham, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Boise, Idaho.

June 1897

$942.12

Salaries,	1897,	$264.20
Wages of Workmen,	1897,	502.20
Contingent Expenses,	1897,	175.72

June 7, 1897

Overton Cade, Esq.,
Supt Mint U. S.,
New Orleans, La.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your

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Salary, Wages, & Contingent Expense Accounts, with Abstracts and Vouchers, for the month ending May 31, 1897.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

Similar letter to:-

E. B. Braden, Esq.,
Assayer U. S. Assay Office,
Helena, Montana.

June 7, 1897.

W. T. Singleton, Esq.,
Attorney at Law, Le Droit Building,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I enclose herewith copies of the letter of the Commission recently appointed to investigate Mr. Brice's process for creating gold and silver dated May 5th and May 19th, as per request of Mr. Granville.

Respectfully yours,
R. E. Preston,
Director of the Mint.

End Entry 235
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